

# THE STANDARD

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**FARMERS AND TAXATION.**—Mr. Wakefield, editor of the *Jeffersonian*, published at Lawrence, Kan., says that some Alliance men have refused to take his paper because of his advocacy of Free Trade and the Single Tax. We are afraid that there is no cure for the mental infirmity of a Kansas farmer who still resents talk about Free Trade. If, after twenty years of a policy that has compelled him to obtain everything that he buys at prices enhanced by a tariff and to sell the products of his labor at prices fixed by competition with farmers throughout the world, he still believes in "Protection" he is incorrigible. If, while in actual revolt against the conditions that Protection has at least failed to prevent, an "Alliance man" is still prostrate before the fetich he has been deluded into worshipping, he is "joined to his idols," like Ephraim, and the only thing that reasonable men can do is to "let him alone," for if such a farmer be brayed "in a mortar, among wheat, with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him."

There, however, is not equal reason for surprise that farmers resent the advocacy of the Single Tax. The limited means at the disposal of the advocates of that idea have prevented any organized and systematic attempt to reach so enormous a class as the farmers, and the result has been that the majority of these victims of the existing system are disposed to consider the Single Tax as a new burden to be laid on land, and therefore bearing with special hardship on those holding the largest areas of land. Had any determined effort been made to show the farmers the difference between a tax on land and a tax on land values, they would perhaps have understood the matter soon enough to prevent them from wasting their energies in behalf of foolish and futile attempts to lighten the burdens under which they are chafing. The Single Tax on land values, so far from adding to the present burdens resting on farmers, would tend to relieve them of all taxation, and in some cases would actually do so. The farmer imagines that he is the only land holder, and that when one talks of land he necessarily has the farmer in mind, whereas the truth is that farming land is the least valuable of all land for which there is any demand. This is not only true now, but from year to year the relative value of land in cities, towns and villages and of that in mining regions increases in proportion to that devoted to agriculture, so that if the value of land irrespective of improvements were made the sole source of public revenue, the taxes on agricultural land would relatively diminish from year to year. Of course every Single Tax man sees this, but it is equally clear to many who do not fully accept the doctrines set forth in "Progress and Poverty," and who, therefore, never have identified themselves with the Single Tax movement.

One such is Hon. John De Witt Warner, a member of Congress from this city. In October, 1890, Mr. Warner wrote an article for the *Statesman*, a Chicago Magazine, in reply to one by Judge Fox, who had insisted that the Single Tax, if ever adopted, would lay a ruinous burden on farmers. The question at issue as formulated by Mr. Warner was, "How will the Single Tax affect the farmer—the voting rural population?" He said:

It is proposed to assess all lands at their unimproved value, and not other-

wise. That amounts to this: that all improved lands are to be relieved somewhat of present taxation, and all unimproved lands are to be somewhat more heavily taxed; that all more improved lands are to be less taxed in comparison with all less improved lands—generally speaking that all extensive estates, the worth of whose broad acres, irrespective of their improvements, is greater in comparison with such improvements, will pay more, and small farms, a greater part of whose worth is made up of buildings and improvements, will pay less. Which are the more numerous? Which would the Single Tax tend to make more and more numerous? Which is it good policy for the Government most to encourage? To ask these questions is to answer them, and to demonstrate that in its comparative incidence upon improved and unimproved rural property respectively, the Single Tax is at once more just and politic than our present system.

But any general system of taxation involves questions of general as well as local proportion. What share of taxes would rural communities, as a whole, pay under the Single Tax, as compared with what they now pay, or as compared with that paid by urban communities? Let us see. It will be admitted that "unearned increment"—increase in the value of land, due not to improvement of the land itself, but to improvement of lands about it—as in the case of city lots, is a more important factor in the city than in the country. It will be admitted that in a State where there are no cities or villages, no causes for unearned increment in special localities, it will be perfectly fair to assess all lands at their present value for use equally except as present productiveness or availability of each tract may differ. Now as the State, as a whole, increases in productiveness and wealth its lands become more and more valuable for use in two general ways—first by actual improvement of the land itself and the buildings placed thereon; second by increased availability for use of certain parcels in or near villages and cities—which will aggregate themselves about certain natural or artificial vantage points. This increase in availability, this so-called "unearned increment," is so intensified in cities, and so minimized in strictly rural districts that it may be considered a factor of land values in cities and villages alone; and when it is considered that the worth of a city lot—unlike even half cultivated land—is scarcely affected by whether it is fenced or ditched, cultivated or not; and how enormously out of all proportion to the value of farm land is the value of city land as such, without reference to any improvements whatever on the particular parcel, it will be seen how hard it is even to imagine a village, much less a city, where the value of the land, without reference to the improvements, does not bear a greater proportion to the value of all real estate there, including improvements, than does the land in any rural district, considered as wild or unimproved land, bear to the actual value of the real estate of such rural district, including all buildings, fences, ditches and improvements of every kind that have made it more fertile and more valuable. And it is impossible to imagine a State, including growing cities, where the comparison in question will not be more conclusive in the same direction as the proportion of urban to rural development increases.

To sum up: Not merely is the Single Tax, as compared with our present system of taxation, the more just and politic as between the several members of a rural community; but, if put into operation, it would decrease the proportion of taxes which the farming community would have to pay as compared with our cities; and would increase, faster than would our present system, the proportion of taxes which cities would have to pay.

We are glad to be able to quote so clear an argument from one who, though outside the Single Tax movement, clearly comprehends the scope and purpose of that movement. Mr. Warner is an absolute Free Trader, and, unlike many who are proud to call themselves by that name, he has had the wisdom and courage to prepare himself to answer the question, Where will you get the revenue needed for government? Approaching the subject from an entirely different standpoint, he has arrived at the conclusion that not only is the Single Tax more just and politic than the present system of taxation, but that, if once applied, it would be of special advantage to rural communities, since it would diminish the taxes they would pay as compared with those paid on the enormous and ever increasing values of lands in our cities.

How vast is the difference in the increase of value in urban as compared with agricultural land is shown by the reports of the Tax Commissioners of New York State, while the disadvantages imposed on farmers by a foolish policy they themselves insist on, that of trying to tax personal property, was clearly shown in Mr. Shearman's paper, read in January, 1889, before the Joint Committee on Taxation of the Ohio



Legislature, and printed in full in No. 5 of the Single Tax Library. There is an increasing volume of effective literature bearing on the subject, but unfortunately those who ought to be the leaders of public opinion have allowed their own minds to be closed by increasing prejudice or dull indifference, and they are now alarmed at the direction the movement due to the aroused anger and despair of the farmers is taking. The only cure for wrong opinions is the substitution of right opinions; and the men who see the danger involved in the new party movement owe it to themselves to assist in the establishment and diffusion of right opinions concerning taxation.

**SOAP AND THE TARIFF AGAIN.**—The American Economist, organ of the American Protective Tariff League, is apparently shocked at the audacity, if not the actual wickedness, of THE STANDARD in making use of "a letter written by the agents of a foreign soap manufactory" in support of the declaration that the tariff is a tax. These agents, it says, "naturally enough are found battling on THE STANDARD's side, and are quite as eager as itself to abolish the tariff on soap." The Economist quotes Mr. Gaunt's declaration that he has yet to find importers "who do not add to their imported goods the actual duty which they pay the United States Government, and which, of course the people have to pay back to the importer," and says:

The agents are perfectly right. When an American turns his back upon the product of his own countrymen's labor and insists upon getting his supplies from abroad, the duty is always added to the price paid in the foreign market. So the agents have proven nothing—simply restated a perfectly obvious and universally accepted proposition.

This is a little hard on Mr. John W. Tindall, "tariff editor" of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, who in his letter of April 10th assured Mr. Gaunt that "tariff *very seldom, very seldom, indeed, is added to the cost.*" Here is the acknowledged organ of the Protectionists declaring that the duty is always added to the price, and that a statement to that effect is "a perfectly obvious and universally accepted proposition." We told Mr. Tindall how it would be in our comments in his letter in THE STANDARD of April 29th.

But this declaration by The Economist does more than crush the self-complacent "tariff editor" of the Chicago Inter-Ocean. After this, what becomes of that other venerable Protectionist falsehood, the assertion that "the foreigner pays the tax?" The Economist admits that it is the American purchasers of imported goods who pay it, and it evidently thinks that they deserve to be thus fined for turning their backs upon the product of their own countrymen's labor and getting from abroad such supplies as Mr. Blaine brought home in his famous twenty trunks. It thus continues:

It has not the slightest bearing, however, upon the question as to whether the tariff is a tax.

What the agents should have shown is that consumers who buy American, not foreign, soap, are taxed by reason of the duty on English soap.

Oh, yes. It has a very strong bearing on the question as to whether the tariff is a tax on imported goods, which was the very question under discussion in the letters on which The Economist is commenting. And why should Mr. Gaunt have tried to show that consumers of American soap "are taxed by reason of the duty on English soap?" That question was not involved in that particular controversy. It, however, is a fact just as obvious as the other one admitted by The Economist. Nobody knows this better than the protected manufacturers and their organs. If the tax on imported goods, which they now admit that the American consumer of such goods pays, did not enable them to sell domestic goods at higher prices, they would not have the slightest interest in maintaining the tariff. They know this, and everybody else knows it, and it is foolishness for them to try to deceive any one into any-

other belief. The Economist tries it, however, and trots out the venerable wire nail on which so many lies have been hung. It says:

The tariff on these is two cents a pound. They were quoted during the last week in Chicago at one nine-tenth cents a pound, one-tenth of a cent less than the duty itself. If Mr. Cleveland's theory is sound, this one cent and nine mills a pound must include the two cents duty, and the abolition of the tariff would reduce the price by just two cents. Subtracting two cents from one nine-tenth cents we have minus one-tenth of a cent the price at which wire nails would be selling if they bore no tariff. That is to say, the manufacturers of wire nails, in this blessed month of May, 1891, if the tariff were abolished, would not only be giving their nails away, but would be actually offering a bonus of one-tenth of a cent a pound as an inducement to their customers to take them. Let our brilliant foreign agents and their friend, THE STANDARD, turn to the solution of this mystery.

Of course, it is not safe to assume that any such statement is true; but, granting for the sake of argument that it is true, what of it. A few years ago wire nails sold at seven cents a pound. They suddenly fell to three and a half. This happened at a time when there was no change making in the tariff. Why? Because new machinery had been perfected that enabled them to be turned out with great rapidity with the application of very little human labor. If the price quoted by The Economist is not an accidental and temporary one, the decrease is due to the further improvement of machinery, so that less "American labor" is necessary to the production of 100 pounds of wire nails. The tariff had nothing to do with it, for at the time when improved machinery cut the price in two here it did the same abroad, and any further improvement in the same direction will ultimately reduce the prices in other countries.

If these nails are now selling in this country for less than two cents a pound, and this is a price that can fairly be quoted as a regular market rate, we may rest assured that somebody can afford to make them at that rate, and it is also likely that the reduction from three and one-half cents has been brought about by domestic competition. Under the circumstances the tariff of two cents a pound becomes prohibitory, unless an even greater fall in prices has taken place abroad. It must be nearly prohibitory at any rate. So long as this is the case it is entirely within the power of the domestic manufacturers to cease competition, form a trust and put the price back to three and one-half cents a pound, and if the situation is such as The Economist describes, this is precisely what will happen.

This is the solution of the mystery, as The Economist calls it, and unfortunately for the Protectionists the solution is becoming obvious to an ever increasing number of the former victims of the Protection superstition.

**PROGRESS IN MICHIGAN.**—A news article in this issue of THE STANDARD demonstrates the marvellous rapidity with which the Single Tax idea has spread in the State of Michigan. This is due to the fact that our doctrine is not the creed of an organized party, but the belief of active and earnest men who, through the policy of helping those who are going their way, have obtained a hearing amongst the real leaders of public opinion that they could not otherwise have. The views expressed by citizens of Detroit to reporters of the News of that city do not indicate that if a Single Tax party were organized it would receive the votes even of those who speak so favorably of the Single Tax, but they do demonstrate that our doctrines are acquiring a lodgment in the minds of an ever increasing number of people, and in such fashion as to influence their actions inside the parties to which they belong, and to cause them, eventually, to drift into whichever of the two is nearer their own views. It might readily be found that, in some States, this attitude would lead men to vote for Democratic Congressmen on the Free



Trade issue and Republican Legislators on the issue of local taxation, and it is the growth of a body of intelligent men who will vote in this discriminating way that makes it certain that some day, and that before long, provided the issue of taxation is kept to the front, the Single Tax doctrine will be backed by a real political party having the chance of electing its candidates.

The work that is going on in Michigan is going on elsewhere. It is largely due to the individual efforts of men who have come to see the great truths embodied in "Progress and Poverty," but it is also largely due to the conviction that, aside from all questions as to its general effect, a tax on land values is the only one that does not impose intolerable burdens on industry and enterprise. The process of education is perfectly plain. The agitation for tariff reform inevitably drifts into a demand for Free Trade; the demand for Free Trade compels a question as to what is the best system of direct taxation. The answer to that question, after it has once been thoroughly considered, inevitably brings men to the advocacy of the Single Tax, whether they comprehend its full benefits or not. Having been brought this far, the transition from the Single Tax man limited to the Single Tax man unlimited is easy and natural.

**THE NEW PARTY.**—The gathering at Cincinnati last week fulfilled the expectation of its promoters by deciding to put a new political party in the field. Such opposition as there was to this step came from those who recognized the heterogeneous and unrepresentative character of the Cincinnati conference, and therefore desired that the organization of farmers and workingmen should take the initiative. Such counsels, however, were overruled and a new party was determined on. In deference to the more powerful organizations, however, the conference urged all "progressive" organizations to attend the conference called by the farmers' and workingmen's organizations to meet February 22, 1892, and directed its own "National Central Committee" to attend that gathering, and if possible unite with the organizations there represented in forming a third party. In case that cannot be accomplished the "National Central Committee" is to call a National convention not later than June, 1892, to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President. This is apparently equivalent to saying that if the Farmers' Alliance, the Knights of Labor and other organizations refuse to sanction a third party movement, these people will go ahead without them, and it contains also a lurking suggestion that in case the powerful organizations named determine on a third party, but do not let these people in, that the latter will go ahead with their party, be it the third or the fourth.

So far as a fair inference can be drawn from the telegraphic reports of the proceedings, the only delegates representing any known body of voters came from Kansas, and the largest number of delegates came from Ohio. Of those who took part in the proceedings, all whose names are generally known, except the Kansans, have figured in the old Greenback third party movement. There were, however, many others, and these doubtless represent the new revolt against existing conditions. They are honest people gravely dissatisfied with things as they are, and ready to grasp the first sympathetic hand stretched out to them, and to adopt the first plausible proposal made. Such people deserve the respectful consideration of all other opponents of existing abuses, and not the jeers and derision to which these people have been subjected by some newspaper editors, who are blind to changes taking place immediately under their eyes, and who know no more of

questions of money, transportation, and so on, than so many children.

But despite the honest intentions of the great majority of those gathered at Cincinnati, they did not really accomplish anything important or effective. The enthusiasm of those assembled has not pervaded the country, and the platform fails to enumerate any principle or idea around which a great party could rally, unless it be the demand for the free coinage of silver. The Ocala platform is adopted, but so is that of the Northern Farmers' Alliance, adopted at Omaha in 1891, from which the Ocala demand for the loaning of Government notes to those able to offer non-perishable products as security had deliberately been omitted. The land plank is simply directed against alien and corporate ownership, and does not betray the faintest suspicion of a dislike for landlordism. The transportation plank shows that the committee has considered but two alternatives, while the demand for the election by the people of President, Vice-President and United States Senators by direct vote has not yet been sufficiently discussed to make it a source of strength to any political party.

When we come to the live issue that is really before the people, however, and on which they are earnestly divided, the tone of certainty and boldness disappears, and this new political party indulges in a generality as glittering as any ever put into an old party platform. Of course, any Free Trader could interpret paragraphs *d* and *e* in the second plank of the platform as printed in the "Story of the Week," into a declaration in favor of a tariff for revenue only, but this requires an interpreter, and the committee on platform did not dare offend the Protectionists by a clean cut declaration even to that effect. Such trimming by an old party, which has something to lose, does not surprise one, but it is fatal to a new party unless the question thus trifled with is an unimportant one. The Cincinnati conference, however, could not come out boldly and frankly on this question. It was composed of men united on nothing except a desire for an increase in the volume of the currency and honestly differing on other subjects. The Greenbackers think that the time is ripe for making that the leading issue. We think they are mistaken, but will be glad to see them test it.

Aside from this the gathering was as unhomogeneous as it was unrepresentative. In patent law there is a distinction between a "combination" and an "aggregation." A number of parts so united as to contribute to the accomplishment of a common purpose is a "combination," and patentable as such, as, for instance, the mechanical parts of a printing press. A number of parts which, though united, do not contribute to a common purpose, constitute a mere aggregation which is not patentable. A rubber tipped lead pencil, for instance, is an unpatentable aggregation, because the rubber does not aid in the writing or the lead in the erasing. The Cincinnati concern was an aggregation, not a combination. Unless it can get the people to abandon the debate on the tariff question and devote their undivided attention to the currency question, it will not amount to anything. We do not believe it can accomplish any such change. Meanwhile, its existence ought to demonstrate to Democrats the senseless folly of dividing their own party by an attempt to follow the example set them at Cincinnati. Let the men who believe that the currency question is the supreme issue vote with the new party, and those who believe that the tariff question is the main one vote with the Republicans for Protection and McKinleyism, or with the Democrats against Protection and for Free Trade. What if Democrats do call it Tariff Reform? No one can put brakes on a movement started in that direction. There is but one stopping place, and that is Free



**Trade.** As Wendell Phillips asked of those who sought to restrain the drift of the Republican party toward abolition, "Can a man jump half way over Niagara?"

**A CONSCIENTIOUS CONGRESSMAN.**—Hon. Michael D. Harter, of Ohio, is one of those who really believe that a public office is a public trust. He was elected to Congress last Fall and he evidently intends to devote the whole of his time and energy to the performance of his public duties. He has determined to retire from active business, and will resign to other hands the management of the great business of the Altman & Taylor Company. Mr. Harter said to a reporter of the Mansfield Shield and Banner:

I go out of business indeed largely to be where I can give all the time needed to the duties of the office I now hold and to the furtherance of the great interests of the party. \* \* \* I ought, as a man of comparative leisure, to be much more serviceable to my friends and the public than I have ever been in the past and, besides this, I think I am setting an example which I hope will be followed by many other business men; that of retiring upon a reasonable competency and leaving the way open for other men to prosper in the calling they give up. It is the everlasting greed to make money, rather than to be useful, that is fast making of Americans a narrow, selfish, grasping, and I believe unhappy, dissatisfied people. You have found me to-day with plenty of time on my hands and your questions are very reasonable ones, coming from an old friend, and as I suppose you are likely to print what I say to you.

Mr. Harter is not only a Jeffersonian Democrat, and therefore an absolute Free Trader, but he is a philosopher who applies his philosophy. If more men would follow his example we should have in this country a "leisure class" possessed of brains and patriotism, and ready and able to apply proved and matured powers to the solution of the great problems pressing on our people. Of course all Congressmen cannot afford to retire from business, but it would be vastly better for the country if those of them who have a competency would either retire from private business or from public life. Neither preaching nor example will bring about such a change, however, so long as private business interests are so closely linked to legislation, as they ever must be while governmental revenues are derived in whole or in part from indirect taxation. Let Mr. Harter use his opportunities to bring about Free Trade and direct taxation, and he will open the way to others to follow his example.

**"JERRY SIMPSON'S FALL."**—This is the heading placed over a dispatch by the New York Times declaring that "the general opinion of Alliance people in Kansas is that Jerry Simpson's political sun has gone down, never more to rise." The dispatch quotes the Mayor of Abeline as saying that Jerry has "killed himself by his opposition to the third party movement. If it had not been for the radical stand he took on that question he would now have been in high feather. As it is, well, Pepper is the man."

THE STANDARD has no authority to speak for Jerry Simpson, but, as it understands the reports, he merely insisted that final action concerning a third party should be postponed until a conference representing actual voters in all parts of the country could be held. If that was his position we anticipate that even Alliance men will, inside a year, see that Jerry was right in resisting the action finally taken at Cincinnati. If the duly authorized representatives of the farmers' and laborers' organizations deliberately go about forming a third party next February they are sure to have trouble with the "claims" of this "Central National Committee," representing nothing but the enthusiasm of a mass meeting.

We do not believe that Jerry Simpson has yet been convinced that there is no need for a third party. Probably his visit to the East has modified the views he entertained on that subject last November; but unless he has changed his views since he was in New

York he is a third party man. We think that he is mistaken in his views, but we are certain that he holds them honestly, and believes in the practicability of a third party movement. Yet he clearly sees the dangers attending it and is anxious to avoid any false step. His caution will be justified, and even if he went further and opposed the formation of any third party until the Tariff question is settled, we have no doubt that the election of 1892 would justify his position.

We do not believe that he has taken any such position; but suppose he has, why should the New York Times, in its headlines, triumph in what it calls his downfall?

## HOW THE SINGLE TAX WILL RAISE WAGES.

—There recently appeared in THE STANDARD two articles by Mr. W. B. Scott in answer to criticisms by a correspondent on that portion of the Single Tax platform which declares that the Single Tax would "solve the labor problem and raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor." The discussion of this question was particularly lucid and strong, and many letters have been received expressing satisfaction with it. Mr. Scott has condensed the two articles so that we are able to print them in leaded brevier type in a four-page tract, which constitutes THE STANDARD Extra No. 4, issued last Saturday, May 23. Those engaged in propaganda work cannot do better than include this in the number of tracts that they may require to meet special cases and inquiries.

## MR. GEORGE'S BOOKS.—The following card explains itself:

An arrangement has been made by which THE STANDARD will in future keep and sell our books (including the Hand-to-Hand edition of "Protection and Free Trade") in any quantity and at the lowest rates. Orders may be addressed directly to THE STANDARD. HENRY GEORGE & CO.

## OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

LONDON, May 16.—I have seen much of William Saunders during this first fortnight of my sojourn in London, and I have learned much of the part he has taken in public affairs and I am much impressed with his rising importance in British politics. Since 1885, when he was elected to the Gladstone short Parliament, he has been steadily attracting attention as a thorough-going but careful and evenly balanced radical, and the commanding position taken by him in the London County Council, the most important municipal body in the world, not only insures his re-election, but also his election from the same constituency, Walworth, to the next Parliament. He is at present in splendid health. Mr. Saunders, it will be remembered, was the president of the first organization agitating the land question on our lines—the Land Reform Union, organized in 1882 or 1883. When, in 1884, the English Land Restoration League took its place, the office of president was left out, but Mr. Saunders became treasurer, a post which he has filled ever since. Mr. Saunders looks with hope at the gathering industrial forces, now showing themselves in the rapid spread of trade unionism, as he thinks they can, and, indeed, that they are already turning in our direction. In a word, he is very sanguine, and believes "the good time is coming" and that "it is almost here." The following is a short statement from him in his own words:

"Of course, the chief point of encouragement is the vast territory over which our principles are recognized as within the range of practical politics. Everybody now admits that ground rents must be taxed, the only question being how far the taxation should extend, and the direct taxation of land values cannot be very far off. Mr. Moulton, Q. C., has recently given evidence before the Town Holdings Committee of the House of Commons putting in the clearest light the justice of taxing land values and the practicability of the separation of land from the improvements upon it.

"Mr. Albert Spicer, at the National Liberal Club, last Friday evening, gave a clear expression of the land question, pointing out that the law of England does not recognize an absolute title to land, and maintaining that the value which comes to the owner without effort on his part should bear the brunt of taxation. The discussion which followed was all on Mr. Spicer's side, with the exception of the remarks of the Secretary of the Land Nationalization Society, who always advocates that the state shall buy up and redistribute the land.

"A special fact that you might notice is the great anxiety of th



landowners to sell, as shown in the support of the land purchase bills. No bill for the purchase of the land of England has yet been proposed, but it will not be long before something is put forward, I think.

"The work of the London County Council shows the absolute necessity of putting taxation on the value of land. Wherever they open a park and establish a free ferry, there the land owners, through increased rents, compel the people to pay over again for the advantage which the County Council have already paid for on behalf of the people. The inquiry instituted by the County Council into the feasibility of assessing ground values, irrespective of improvements, has been very conclusive. It is learned that all experienced valuers periodically make a separate valuation of the land and the improvements upon it, so that, without extra cost, the rate books might contain two columns, one for land values and one for improvement values, with the view, of course, of putting a special assessment upon land values. The County Council, however, have no power of assessing taxes, or otherwise they would be assessed on this basis, but they will make a strong representation to Parliament on the subject and it is hoped that Parliament will soon confer upon them the power.

"The County Council have, however, caused to be made an examination of the rate (local tax) books under the quinquennial valuation made of the metropolis last year, and they have claimed an increased assessment on many large properties which were not returned at their proper value. Although this work was but partially done it will cause an increase of £500,000 (about \$2,500,000) in the assessment of certain large properties for the most part belonging to wealthy owners which were underrated to that amount. The result will be a relief to that extent of workingmen and shopkeepers who are always rated up to the hilt."

On the 28th of May the annual meeting of the English Land Restoration League will be held here in London. Mr. Verinder, the secretary, has prepared a very interesting report, advance sheets of which I have been supplied with for THE STANDARD. The report shows that the League has affiliation with fifty-eight political and propagandist organizations in Great Britain and Ireland, that a great many lectures have been held during the year and that nearly a quarter of a million tracts have been printed and distributed, besides a large number of pamphlets. Sets of tracts have been sent to all known workingmen's clubs in England and Wales, and to all the co-operative societies in the east and south of England, of which there are a great many. The petition to Parliament for the land value tax has brought in several thousand signatures, and these have been carefully indexed and literature has been sent to the signers. Leaflets, especially one called "The Candidate's Catechism," have been freely distributed at all the recent bye-elections, and in several counties a special distribution among the villages has been organized. An illustrated tract consisting of Bengough's picture of the little darkies, which was reprinted from THE STANDARD, has been very useful in the League's rural propaganda. A large supply of these together with other tracts has been furnished, at their own request, to the lecturers and organizers sent into the country districts by the Dockers' and General Laborers' Union.

The most important work recently carried on by the League has been done by means of the Land Restoration Van, which has been traveling through small villages and conducting what is known to New York men as a "cart-tail campaign." A large post office van was purchased by the League for \$250, fitted up with a bunk, hammock, table, shelves, stove and other necessities for a couple of men, and was started northward from London through Essex and Suffolk, halting a day in each small village on the way and holding a meeting at night. As Mr. Verinder describes it:

The van arrives at each village early in the forenoon, and is stationed in some prominent position. A notice of the meeting is exhibited—the meetings being also advertised by placards in advance—and some large pictures representing the working of landlordism are shown. A thorough distribution of suitable leaflets is made in the village. The meetings are held in the open air at 7:30, and are attended by from 50 to 300 laborers. The lecturers report that the laborers everywhere welcome the van with enthusiasm, and so far there has been an almost complete absence of opposition. Many of the farmers, especially those who employ most labor and pay the best wages, are on the whole friendly. There is frequently a useful discussion after the meeting.

The speakers in the van so far have been Mr. Verinder, Mr. W. H. Boon, Mr. J. Shaw Maxwell and Mr. Joseph Robinson, the secretary of the Eastern Counties Labor Federation. This Federation holds the same principles as the Restoration League with regard to the land, so that after each of the van meetings the men in the audience are asked to join the Federation and pay dues of a penny a week. Twenty or thirty new members for the Federation are obtained in each place, and others follow. Meetings of this sort have been held thus far in twenty-seven villages and the executive committee of the League hopes to keep the van steadily moving until next Winter.

A report form is filled up each day at the van and mailed to the

League office in London. "By this means," Mr. Verinder says, "much useful information is being gathered." Continuing he says:

Laborers' wages in the part of Suffolk through which the van has traveled appear to be from 10s. to 12s. a week (in some cases an addition of 1s. has been obtained through the action of the Federation). Cottages—often insanitary and overcrowded—are let at £3 to £6 a year. Allotments, where they exist, are almost always insufficient in number; often inconveniently situated; usually charged at a far higher rent than the farmers pay for similar land. The water supply is often very bad indeed. The land is almost everywhere "labor-starved." Many men are out of work in the Winter, and almost all of the villages show a dwindling or stationary population, the young men leaving for the towns. It is worthy of note that the meetings in the villages are relatively larger, and altogether more enthusiastic, than in the small country towns.

As to its other work, the League observing that the opposition of the Liberal party to the Government Land Purchase bill was very weak has been persistently demanding of Parliamentary candidates a pledge to the following effect:

Will you oppose any scheme, by whatsoever Government it may be brought forward, for buying out Irish or other landlords at the expense or under the guarantee of the taxpayers, or for creating a new class of landlords under the name of "peasant proprietors?"

The report says that it is "largely due to the efforts of the League in London that the London Liberal and Radical Union has lately reaffirmed in almost the exact words just quoted, its opposition to the principle of land purchase, and that the London Liberal and Radical candidates issued in January last a very satisfactory manifesto on the subject."

The following very interesting extract from the report explains itself:

Mr. Provand, in the House of Commons, moved on February 27th last:

That in the opinion of this House the proportion of taxation which falls upon and is payable by land and its rentals is insufficient, and ought to be increased; that land should be assessed on its value, whether occupied or vacant, and that taxation which falls upon food, industry and commerce should be repealed to a corresponding extent.

It is to be noted that the latter portion of Mr. Provand's motion (italicised above) was omitted in deference to the wishes of the Liberal "leaders." The unwillingness of the Front Opposition Bench to commit itself to anything but the very vaguest expressions of policy on the Land Question is a matter of which all members and friends of the League will do well to make a careful note, with a view to taking strong and definite action at all elections. Mr. Provand's motion was defeated by 128 to 77.

The debate on Mr. Provand's motion turned largely on the incidence of local rates in the country; but on Friday, March 13th, Mr. James Stuart, M.P., called attention to the unfair incidence of local taxation in London and other large towns, and moved:

"That, in the opinion of this House, the freeholders and owners of ground values in the metropolis ought to contribute directly a substantial share of local taxation."

The motion was defeated by 149 to 123.

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

#### EDWARD ATKINSON'S SNOW STORM YARN.

Mr. Edward Atkinson, in his recent address before the Cosmos Club of Jersey City, is reported to have made afresh the old assertion concerning the unemployed, either that their number is exaggerated, or, if considerable, is chiefly due to their unwillingness to work. In proof of this he cited the fact that several years ago when a heavy snow storm fell in Boston, causing an immediate and large demand for labor, it was not forthcoming. Specifically, the facts, as stated by him, were these: The street car companies called first for a thousand men to clear their tracks and got them; the city authorities then called for another thousand to clear the parks and got them; the charitable societies called for still another thousand, but "here," to use Mr. Atkinson's expression, "the pump sucked." This last call brought out, not a thousand men, but something less—say eight hundred.

This kind of evidence is every now and then put forward to prove just what Mr. Atkinson attempts to prove by it, and usually misleads to just the extent that the evidence is vague and the prejudiced jury wishes to be misled. Mr. Atkinson's evidence, however, is definite, and as we might anticipate, refutes itself. His illustration proves, indeed, to be exceptionally unfortunate, as analysis will show.

Snow falls impartially. The same depth of it that lay upon the car-tracks mentioned also lay upon every square foot of horizontal surface in Boston, causing, therefore, a simultaneous demand for labor all over the city—the very condition that would scatter labor and most effectually prevent its concentration at a given point. This dispersion would be made still surer by the fact that the thousands of suddenly enforced employers of labor so produced would pay more proportionally than regular employers of it, such as the railroads and the city. When it is further remembered that the kind of work demanded was such as could be done only by men, excluding, therefore, every unemployed woman; that it was exceptionally short-lived, ceasing almost before effective publication of it could be made, and also, from this fact, hardly worth while for any one out of work to consider it seriously; that it was also only one kind of work—hard manual labor—for which many of the unemployed at any time have not sufficient strength; that of those who



in this case had the strength, some, being fallible human beings, had qualms of propriety about engaging in such unaccustomed work, just as Mr. Atkinson might have in the same predicament, the fact that under all these untoward circumstances twenty-eight hundred men could be found to answer a demand so sudden is overwhelming proof not only of the large number of the unemployed, but of their dire necessity and of their willingness to work. If anything like the proportion here presumptively proven holds generally, the largest conjectural number of the unemployed—three or four millions—is triumphantly established.

That the pump sucked just where it did is peculiarly significant to those who have any knowledge of the poor. With them a special odium attaches to anything that smacks of "charity." Genuine work, ephemeral as it is, they will gladly do, as the railroads and the city found in this case: but play-work, given out by prosperous gentlemen who had gained their power to give it by exploiting their fellows, however unconsciously, because indirectly carrying with it, as acceptance of it would, acquiescence in the relation which permits a benefaction so insulting—there the defrauded openly rebelled. Probably Mr. Atkinson will look upon their holding back for such a reason as unjustifiable squeamishness. Nothing, on the contrary, so incontestably establishes their manhood. It was the protest of human nature against a situation which they felt, however obscurely, to be wrong—the ineradicable instinct of personal liberty declining to put on the monstrous yoke of an unnatural condition.

Consider, now, Mr. Atkinson's precise attitude. He virtually draws up before him all the unemployed of Boston, and says to them: "You are reputed to be numerous and claim to be in want, because you have no opportunity to work. I not only question that your number is excessive, but believe you to be shamming when you say you want a chance to work. To determine both these points with certainty, I propose now to apply a test. I am going to make a sudden call upon you for your services, forewarning you that if you do not answer it in numbers so considerable as to put both points beyond dispute, I will hold you by that fact discredited and go upon the platform and expose you." He then, without even waiting their consent to the terms, makes a demand of such a character that half of his hearers are barred out from responding to it, to begin with; a demand so short-lived that the news of it can hardly be passed round in a constituency so scattered before it ceases; a demand also not only trifling in its beneficial result to them, but distinctly neutralized by the superior claims of a similar demand made from another quarter. Such a test is a revelation either of the capacity of him who makes it or of his honesty.

Mr. Atkinson used to be considered as an opponent of the Single Tax; advocates of that measure, however, long since ceased to regard him so. On the contrary, unconsciously to himself, he is fast becoming its most serviceable ally. For by dabbling ostentatiously in statistics, incidentally convincing an unthinking majority thereby that this is political economy, he leads them indeed for the moment to believe that the Single Tax—the object of his attack—is not justified economically. He also leads them, however, just as surely to rely upon him to say the last word in opposition to it. It is only necessary, therefore, to knock over his men of straw to leave his following defenceless—without an argument.

Plainfield, N. J.

DAVID L. THOMPSON.

#### "COMPENSATION" IN JAPAN.

It is claimed by land owners that if the Single Tax were adopted to an unlimited extent, and all ground rents taken for purposes of State taxation, they should have "compensation" given them to relinquish the monopoly of land ownership, which they have so long enjoyed, and which they then would only have the privilege of competing for, like any other person. The land is necessary for man. Laying aside the consideration that perhaps those who have been deprived of the advantages of land ownership might rightly have more claim for "compensation" at the present time, if any one should, let us search for an ideal spot on the earth where a practical system of ground rentals taken for State purposes is in actual existence, and see whether some light may not be thrown on this question thereby.

Shanghai, China, was settled by the English, Americans and other foreigners in 1843; Yokohama, Japan, in the fifties. Both these cities, like other treaty ports in the far East, were opened by the foreigners with force of arms against the natives, but their settlement was acquiesced in because their trade was mutually profitable, and the foreigners were guaranteed by treaty the lease on very moderate ground rents of sufficient land whereon to erect warehouses and residences. In Shanghai, for instance, these "perpetual leases" were granted by the Chinese Government for the equivalent in native currency of about seven dollars United States gold per acre per year. The mile or two square of Yokohama was granted to the foreigners by the Japanese Government upon a similar small annual payment; and here we have the theory of ground rentals all confiscated by the State, in practical existence in two prosperous cities. After Shanghai had been occupied by a few thousand foreign-

ers for a number of years, the Taiping rebellion in 1861 drove the inhabitants of several interior Chinese cities, estimated to number four hundred thousand, to seek refuge in Shanghai. Although the treaty with the Chinese Government forbade the natives from living in the foreigners' settlement, yet they were permitted to do so, as there was considerable unoccupied land in it, and the trade that sprang up to supply the wants of so large a number of people, and their connections with the rest of the empire, was of great pecuniary advantage to the foreigners. Hence, after the rebellion was suppressed by the native troops trained to modern tactics under "Chinese Gordon," a part of the natives returned to the interior, but about one hundred and fifty thousand still lived and traded in Shanghai, and there they live and trade to-day. To give an idea of how the values of these leased lands increased by the influx of population, it is stated that land, which had cost the English purchaser in the first years of the settlement only £50 sterling (\$250), sold for £10,000 sterling (\$50,000), recently. A tour through the busy streets of Shanghai will show the visitor block after block of houses and stores erected by Englishmen and Americans, and rented to natives. Here are prepared and packed millions of dollars worth of commodities for native trade, and vast quantities of teas, silks, camphor, matting, fur-rugs, goatskins and other objects of trade with Europe and America.

The city of Shanghai, as well as that of Yokohama, is a veritable republic, with the exception of a few officers, judges and consuls sent out by the home governments. The rate-payers—equivalent to our tax-payers on land—run the town governments, electing from among their number the "Municipal Council," who conduct the necessary improvements, and raise revenue by the imposition of a "house tax," licenses of places for the sale of liquor, of public vehicles, and in other ways; and also appoint a police force, and generally perform the functions of government, as in any other English or American independent State or city.

Affairs are conducted in Yokohama in very nearly the same way, the basis of all governmental conduct being in these two cities the common English laws.

In Japan, however, the Imperial Government is now desirous of revising the treaties with foreign powers. The great progress which that country has shown has led to a desire on the part of her Government to make a change in her statutes with respect to foreigners. This has caused much agitation among those living under the treaty regulations, and, at a meeting held by the foreigners, a committee was delegated to make a report upon the subject. This "statement by the Yokohama Committee" implies very clearly the condition of affairs, and brief extracts will show that actually land-renters there refuse to accept fee simple of the land they now hold, because they say the ordinary taxes will be heavier than the ground rents they now pay, and they decline to accept the proposed state of affairs without compensation. Here are extracts from the report:

The Japanese Government seeks to obtain full and complete jurisdiction, civil and criminal, over the persons and property of foreigners resident in Japan, such jurisdiction to be exercised solely by native judges, and according to the laws of that country; to annul the covenants under which foreigners hold land in the settlements, and to subject such land to the native law of tenure; and to obtain tariff autonomy, with power of levying tonnage, harbor and light-house dues.

The meeting has been called an Anti-Revision meeting; but so far from being opposed to Revision, there is not an intelligent member of the community who does not admit that Japan is entitled to demand some relaxation of the terms of the present treaties.

On the subject of the tariff, the committee are of opinion that it may be modified to meet the wishes of the Japanese Government, but that it should be regulated by commercial treaties with the Powers interested, as is done in European countries. This would guard against sudden changes and the imposition of excessive duties, which might ruin certain important branches of trade. The levying of tonnage, harbor and light-house dues might, in the opinion of the committee, reasonably be conceded.

As to the question of legal jurisdiction, a large part of the report of the committee is naturally devoted, the course of reasoning being that while there are many objections to the change, and a necessity for guarantees to be made that foreigners will not be discriminated against by native laws and judges, yet, after a lapse of years, time might be counted on to cure all evils resulting from such a complete variation from present methods. The question of land tenure is, however, referred to in a manner most surprising to Western landlords:

But though acquiescing conditionally in the principle of Japanese demands with regard to the recovery of tariff and judicial autonomy, the committee are quite unable to recognize the justice of those put forward in respect of land held by foreigners in the settlements. By the treaties Japan undertook to lease land in the open ports to the subjects and citizens of Treaty Powers for residential and business purposes, and by subsequent arrangements and conventions leases in perpetuity have been granted, conditional only upon the payment of a fixed annual ground rent and the observance of certain formalities with regard to transfer. Many hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling have been spent in improving the lands so acquired. It is now proposed to call in the existing title deeds and issue others in their stead, and it is argued that foreign land owners will be gainers, inasmuch as the land tax payable by Japanese is lighter than the ground rents payable by us. Even if this were so,



there is no guarantee for the future; but the argument is fallacious, as it ignores the house property tax, which would at once become payable in addition to the land tax.

But in any case a compulsory alteration of the conditions of land tenure created by solemn covenant is considered by this committee to be *ultra vires*. Foreigners are quite content to continue to pay the present ground rents and to observe the conditions of the title deeds, retaining the privileges and immunities attaching to their tenure, and they do not desire the proposed change.

They quite understand the object of the Japanese Government, which is arbitrarily to abolish an exceptional tenure, created by convention and ratified by covenant, and by compulsions to obtain more favorable terms for themselves.

In short, the land now held by foreigners is required by the State, and it is sought to confiscate it without their consent to the terms offered in palliation of the act of confiscation. This is the grave injustice complained of in the original meeting (September 11, 1890), and the committee cannot too strongly protest against any action on the part of the Treaty Powers which would deprive foreign land owners of their rights without their concurrence.

If the land is required for State purposes it needs no argument to show that the consent of the land holders is a condition precedent, and that they should not be compelled by treaty or otherwise to make any sacrifice of the rights and privileges they have acquired without due and ample compensation. The only way to adjust this question would be by the appointment of delegates or a commission armed with full powers to negotiate a settlement.

The report is signed by the chairman of the committee of the foreign residents of Yokohama, December, 1890.

Now, here is a case exactly the opposite to our landlords. In Japan the Imperial Government, in its sovereign capacity, wishes land renters to become land owners, but they refuse to accept title deeds without compensation for the loss of privileges, one of which is a cheaper rent than their neighbors pay. In America, Single Taxers want the people, in their sovereign capacity, to make laws that puts the land owners upon a ground rent system in order to do justice to ethical rights; but our land owners in refusing to give up the land—which originally cost them next to nothing—and the vast advantages which the land owning system has accumulated for them, claim, if they must give up the expectant wealth which will surely come to them if the system is continued in the future, that they should be "compensated" therefor.

It, however, must be noted that the Single Tax simply treats every land owner alike. It does not make provision to compensate those who have never been land owners; nor does it make their ground rents any less than anyone else's; but, simply as a matter of justice to all, exacts the ground rent, in proportion to the local value of land, from all who use land, and applies this rent for government purposes for the "general welfare."

If this tax system were enacted into law it would not confiscate land, but only that value which favorable position brings to certain lands that are more sought after; which value is the result of concentration of population. This population needs the expense of government; and it seems only just to abolish all other taxes—on personal property of whatever nature, the result of individual industry, and to tax for governmental purposes that value which population creates. Yokohama is an object lesson full of significance.

Flatbush, April 19, 1891.

HENRY G. SEAVER.

#### SOLON AND THE LAND QUESTION.

It is not often that antiquarian research reveals anything of such immediate and modern interest as the recently discovered manuscript of Aristotle's "Constitution of Athens."

The first complete copy to reach the American shore was one which was sent the other day to Professor Goodwin, of Harvard, but in the meantime the Review of Reviews for February has supplied us with an admirable abstract of the work. I venture to call the attention of the readers of THE STANDARD to the remarkable way in which this re-discovered classic confirms Mr. George's well known theory as to the cause of the decay of nations.

This great find was made in Egypt, the exact locality being kept secret in the hope that there may be other treasures still buried on the same spot. There are two long rolls of papyrus, upon one side of which a Greek bailiff of an Egyptian farm kept his accounts in 78, A. D., and upon the other some one else copied Aristotle's work, which is a short history of the rise, development and decay of Athenian Democracy.

The early period of the monarchy is lost through the incompleteness of the manuscript, but Aristotle informs us of the limitations to the royal power which were later introduced. The Council of Nobles, known as that of the Areopagus, from the place where it met; the Polemarch, who took command of the army in place of the king; the Archon, who acted as Chief Magistrate, and finally the board of nine Archons, all tended to reduce the sovereign to a social and religious figurehead. I quote from the Review of Reviews:

"But what of the lower classes under this régime? Aristotle tells us that their condition was bad, very bad. The bulk of them were scattered over the soil of Attica, owning and working at their small holdings of land. But Attica was not a country well adapted to agriculture. The soil was poor, and water was often deficient,

hence bad seasons were not infrequent, and bad seasons to the farmer meant debt. Debts meant mortgages, and since it was then lawful for a man to mortgage his person as well as his lands, the majority of the poorer classes were actually the property, the living chattels, of their creditors."

In this predicament the Athenians resorted to an expedient which is very common in communities where great inequalities reign—they chose one man—a dictator, we should say—to order their affairs. This person was Draco, but he had nothing better to propose than mere palliatives; he reformed the criminal code, with which act his name is principally associated in history, and he extended the political franchise to another, a lower, class.

Says the Reviewer:

"Draco had done something towards extending the political franchise, but he had entirely failed to touch the real root of the evil, and his failure was due to a cause which is of great significance in this present day. He had tried to remedy an economic grievance by a purely political measure. Of what use was it to a struggling small farmer to be told that he might vote for one of his betters to be made Archon or General, when he himself was tied, body and soul, to a creditor by the bonds of debt? No amount of voting at elections would give him back the land which once was his or his ancestors', and he must still remain the slave of his capitalist landlord for anything that the reforms of Draco had enacted. The essential condition of his life remained unaltered, and consequently the laws of Draco failed to remedy the evil which they were intended to meet."

After another period of confusion, Solon took the helm, and it is principally to the reforms which he introduced that I desire to call the attention of the readers of THE STANDARD. They are singularly instructive, because they reveal the utter hopelessness of dealing with the great social problem—be it in Athens or America—otherwise than by going to the root trouble, the land question. Noble, brilliant and wise as he was, Solon failed because he dealt in half measures.

"Solon saw what Draco had failed to see, that the economic difficulty lay at the root of the trouble, and his first measure was directed to the redress of this grievance. This measure was simple but very bold, and is hardly to be justified, except by the extreme urgency of the case. It consisted of a total abolition of all outstanding debts, whereby the land and the persons of the small cultivators, who formed the bulk of the population of Attica, were relieved from the mortgages which bound them, and the man who had practically been a slave, or at best a tenant, working on his creditor's estate, was once more an independent yeoman, cultivating his own farm."

Solon also enacted that no man should pledge his own person as security for a loan, reformed the Athenian currency, which had heretofore been of a different standard from that of the chief Greek mercantile nations, and extended the suffrage to every Athenian of full age, although specifying property qualifications for office-holders. Finally, he introduced a reform to which men are apt to turn as the best solution of the social problem when they do not appreciate the justice of the Single Tax, and yet desire to remedy the dangerous inequalities in the distribution of wealth—he brought into play a graduated income tax.

But here the Reviewer and I must part company, for in summing up Solon's reforms he says:

"Such was the work of Solon, the greatest legislator that Greece ever possessed; and if it did not bring lasting peace to his country, it was because the passions of rival classes had been too greatly inflamed by the struggle."

We who are trained to Single Tax principles can see that it was not "the passions of rival classes," but the incompleteness of the reforms which frustrated Solon's noble intentions; that failure came from attempting to settle the land question by cancelling debts instead of proclaiming man's equal and eternal right to the land, and the ownership of all men to the whole of the crust of the earth.

We can almost predict the course of events after Solon without the help of Aristotle's philosophic pen. The rich landowners, the commercial class, and the mass of the poorer people contending for supremacy, and the resulting despotism of one man, Pisistratus, seem perfectly natural, no less than the temporary triumphs of Democracy that succeeded the fall of the various would-be reformers who followed this tyrant. Even the golden age of Pericles is no surprise to us, for did not the Romans under Augustus enjoy a corresponding era of great national, military, commercial and literary activity, while all the time the basis of their vitality was being eaten away. After Pericles the Athenian Democracy sank through various stages of corruption to the loss of independence and liberty, in much the same manner as all other nations have done, both before and after, and as others are preparing to do unless arrested in their downfall by the solution of the land question. It is the old story, but it acquires new interest when a yellow papyrus is unearthed to testify to its universal applicability, and to show us



that the great problem of mankind was the same twenty-two centuries ago as it is now.

Boston, Mass.

W. D. McCrackan.

## STORY OF THE WEEK

ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1891.

**UNION CONFERENCE.**—A National Union Conference of political and economic reformers met at Music Hall, Cincinnati, on Tuesday, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The following States were not represented: Arizona, North Dakota, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Indian Territory, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Utah, South Carolina, and Washington. Some delegations were extraordinarily large; others, as a delegate expressed it, "brought their entire constituencies with them when they came." Charles E. Cunningham, of Arkansas, was announced as temporary chairman, and introduced without a vote of the conference. The other officers were elected.

The first dispute was whether the national organizations named in the call, or the State delegations, should nominate committeemen. It was decided in favor of the delegations.

The committee on credentials was completed without friction; but in the midst of the roll call for appointments of committeemen on resolutions, Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota, to save time, moved that the appointment of all committeemen, including members of the National Committee, be made upon a single call of the roll. This was regarded as a subtle plan to commit the conference to the third party policy, it being suggested that the naming of a national committee presupposed the existence of a national party. Gen. Weaver, of Iowa, pointed this out, and vehemently opposed, while Mr. Donnelly defended the motion. The debate was interrupted by a delegate, who raised the point of order that the question of appointing a national committee could not be considered before the permanent organization should have been completed. The point of order was sustained, and the committees were slowly completed. The only members of national reputation of the Committee on Resolutions were J. B. Weaver, of Iowa, and Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota. This committee made Donnelly chairman. The Committee on Permanent Organization selected Senator Peffer, of Kansas, for permanent chairman of the conference. The Kansas delegation had opposed him, but was overruled.

At a caucus of the Kansas delegation, Congressmen Simpson and Clover endeavored to induce the delegation to favor the adoption of a platform containing a few essential doctrines, and the appointment of a committee on propaganda; but the caucus voted down their proposition, and favored the immediate organization of a third party.

On the second day, a letter from L. L. Polk, President of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, was read, in which he advised the conference to issue an address and to defer action on the third party question until 1892. It was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, which subsequently reported a platform in substance as follows:

In view of the dawning social, industrial, and economical revolution, and new and living issues, it is time for a crystallization of the political reform forces, and the formation of what should be known as "The People's Party of the United States of America."

The demands of the Farmers' Alliances, formulated at St. Louis in 1889, at Ocala in 1890 by the "Southern," and at Omaha in 1891 by the "Northern," are endorsed and summarized as follows in the second plank:

(a) For the abolition of national banks as banks of issue; and for the substitution for national bank notes of legal tender treasury notes, issued in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country on a cash basis, to be loaned at not more than 2 per cent. per annum on non-perishable products and upon real estate.

(b) For the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

(c) For the prohibition of alien land ownership and the recovery of land now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and of all owned by corporations in excess of such as they actually need and use; the land to be held by the Government for actual settlers only.

(d) Against the use of taxation to build up one interest or class at the expense of another.

(e) For the limitation of all revenues to the necessary expenses of the Government, economically and honestly administered.

(f) For a graduated income tax.

(g) For supervision of the means of transportation and communication; and if that does not remedy existing abuses, for Government ownership.

(h) For the election of President, Vice-President, and United States Senators by a direct vote of the people.

The platform then urges united action of all progressive organizations in attending the conference called for February 22, 1892, and provides for the appointment of a national central committee composed of a chairman elected by the present conference and of

three members from each State. Such committee is to represent the present conference at the conference in February next, and if possible there to unite; but if union cannot be effected, the committee is to call a national convention not later than June 1, 1892, for the purpose of nominating candidates for President and Vice-President.

Resolutions favoring universal suffrage, the payment of old soldiers on a coin basis, and an eight-hour day, and condemning the refusal of the World's Fair directory with reference to its action on the question of wages, were passed as a supplement to the platform.

The platform, exclusive of the resolutions, was adopted by a rising vote; the resolutions were adopted against three dissenting votes.

A resolution favoring the abolition of the liquor traffic was overwhelmingly defeated.

H. E. Taubeneck, the member of the Illinois Legislature who voted steadily last Winter for Streeter for Senator, was elected Chairman of the National Committee; and, after the members of the committee from the different States had been announced, the conference adjourned.

The National Committee elected Robert Schilling, of Milwaukee, Secretary, and M. C. Rankin, of Terre Haute, Treasurer; and resolved that the three members from each State should constitute a State Committee, with power and instructions to appoint a sub-committee.

**SPEAKERSHIP.**—Both branches of the Illinois Legislature, by unanimous vote, recommend Congressman Springer for Speaker of the National House of Representatives.

**SOCIALISM IN NEW YORK.**—The Socialistic Labor party of New York has nominated a full State ticket. Daniel De Leon, formerly a lecturer at Columbia College, and now assistant editor of a Socialist paper, is the candidate for Governor.

**REPUDIATING GOVERNOR HILL.**—The David B. Hill Club of Utica changes its name to the Edward F. Jones Club, because Governor Hill permits the Superintendent of Public Works to cripple business traffic in the city of Utica, in order that the canal ring may accommodate favorites.

**NEBRASKA'S SENATORSHIP.**—The Independent party proposes to nominate this fall a candidate for Governor to succeed Thayer, who holds over under the decision of the Supreme Court, by which Boyd was ousted as an alien, as reported in THE STANDARD of May 13, under title of "Governor Boyd, of Nebraska, Ousted," and May 20, under title of "Nebraska's Governorship."

**CONSTITUTION OF DELAWARE.**—The people of Delaware, on the question of calling a constitutional convention, vote 17,114 for, and 115 against; but as the affirmative vote is less than a majority of those who voted for representatives in the General Assembly at the election last November, the number so cast being about 17,600, the constitutional majority is not secured, and the movement for the convention fails.

**KENTUCKY POLITICS.**—The delegates from Kentucky to the Union Conference held at Cincinnati and reported this week, organize in their State upon their return and nominate a full State ticket, with Pollock Barbour as the candidate for Governor.

The Republican convention endorses President Harrison's administration, prays Congress for an election law that will give to every American citizen equal rights at the polls, and nominates a full ticket with T. A. Wood as the candidate for Governor.

The action of the Democratic convention was reported last week under title of "Kentucky Democracy."

**PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church held its 103d annual convention at Detroit, beginning on Thursday. Rev. Dr. William Henry Green, a professor at Princeton Theological Seminary, was elected Moderator by acclamation. He is regarded as a leader of the conservative element.

The report of the Committee on Revision of the Confession of Faith was accepted as a report of progress, and ordered to be sent to the Presbyteries. The committee was continued, to make its final report at the next annual meeting of the Assembly.

The question of revision has long been a disturbing one in the Presbyterian Church. In 1889 steps were taken by the General Assembly to bring it to an end, and an overture was by that body sent out to the various Presbyteries, asking if they desired a revision. The debate on the question at the meeting of the General Assembly in 1890 resulted in the appointment of a committee on revision. The committee was made up of theological professors, college presidents, pastors, and elders, chosen from both sides to the controversy. It met last October at Allegheny City, Pa., and later at Washington, D. C.; its report was presented this week to the General Assembly, and disposed of in the manner stated above.

To any but a Presbyterian the changes proposed by the committee will appear of the smallest possible moment. The principal ones



relate to predestination, original sin, free will, infant damnation, the inefficacy of good works, the Sabbath, and monastical vows.

In the present confession it is declared that "some men and angels are predestinated unto everlasting life, and others foreordained unto everlasting death;" and that their number "is so certain and definite that it cannot be either increased or diminished." This declaration the report proposes to strike out. But another clause of the confession it proposes to amend so as to state that some are particularly and unchangeably chosen for everlasting glory; that God has done this out of His mere free grace and love, "without any foresight of faith, or good works, or perseverance, in either of them, or any other thing in the creature as conditions or causes moving him thereto;" and that it is "all to the praise of His glorious grace." The remainder of mankind, the report proposes to declare, are ordained to dishonor and wrath; but not so as to place any limitation upon the offer of salvation to all, nor to restrain the freedom of any one to accept the offer.

The present confession characterizes mankind as "utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite to all good, and wholly inclined to all evil." The report proposes to modify this by making him opposed to all "that is spiritually good," and by admitting that unregenerate men are by God's providence and the common operations of His spirit, "restrained from much that is evil, and led to exercise many social and civil virtues."

The present confession holds that man in his natural state is dead in sin and not able to convert himself by his own strength. This the report accepts, with the proviso that his helplessness does not impair his responsibility as a free, moral agent.

By the present confession, elect infants dying in infancy, and elect heathen, are saved; but the committee allows salvation to all infants dying in infancy, and to all heathen who are such from birth until death.

The present confession denies salvation to all who are not elected, and to men not professing the Christian religion. The report likewise excludes the non-elect; but it does not require a profession of Christianity, though it says there is no salvation in any other way than by Christ through the spirit.

The present confession denounces good works as sinful, because they are not prompted by spiritual motives; but the report describes the neglect of good works as sinful, and good works themselves as "not free from sin," because they do not proceed from spiritual motives.

The present confession forbids prayer for the dead and those known to have "sinned the sin of death;" but the report, confining the prohibition to the physically dead, strikes out the latter clause.

The present confession denounces Popish monastical vows of perpetual single life, professed poverty, and regular obedience as superstitious and sinful snares; the report makes the denunciation more comprehensive by striking out the word "popish."

**PHILLIPS BROOKS.**—Though elected as a Bishop by the Diocese of Massachusetts, as reported under title of "Phillips Brooks a Bishop" in THE STANDARD of May 6, Phillips Brooks may be refused consecration.

During the recess of the General Convention, if the church in any diocese desires to consecrate a Bishop-elect, the standing committee of the church in that Diocese may request the approval of their candidate by the standing committees of all the other Dioceses, and if a majority approve, the question goes to the House of Bishops, upon whose majority vote the consecration of the Bishop-elect then depends. Accordingly, the standing committee of the Diocese of Massachusetts requested approval of Mr. Brooks.

The standing committee of the Diocese of Newark, N. J., vote unanimously to refuse consent. Some of the members of the Diocesan Convention informally protest, but the standing committee is re-elected by a large majority. The standing committees of the Dioceses of Milwaukee and Iowa also refuse consent; but the New York Diocese favors the consecration, as do the Dioceses of Albany, Providence, Raleigh, Philadelphia, Kansas City, Cincinnati, Omaha, and Nashville. That of Buffalo lays the papers upon the table until the next meeting.

**PROF. BRIGGS'S HERESY.**—The Moderator of the New York Presbytery has appointed the Rev. Dr. George W. F. Birch, the Rev. Dr. J. J. Lampe, the Rev. Dr. Robert F. Sample, Prof. J. J. Stevenson and John J. McCook the committee to arrange and prepare for the judicial proceedings directed by the Presbytery to be taken against Prof. Briggs for heresy, as reported last week under this title.

Prof. Briggs, meantime, has been catechized by the Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary, in which institution he is a professor. His answers, given categorically to prepared questions, were entirely satisfactory, and called forth the unanimous adoption of a resolution to that effect. They show his belief to be as follows: He does not regard the Bible, the Church, and the Reason, as co-ordinate sources of authority. He believes the Old and

the New Testaments to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice. In his use of the term Reason, he includes the conscience and the religious feeling. He looks upon inspiration as such a divine direction as to secure an infallible record of God's revelations in respect to both faith and doctrine. He believes the Bible inerrant in all matters concerning faith and practice, and in everything in which it is a revelation from God or a vehicle of divine truth; and that there are no errors which disturb its infallibility in these matters, or in its records of the historic events and institutions with which they are inseparably connected. He believes that the miracles of Scripture are due to an extraordinary exercise of divine energy. He does not believe in purgatory. He believes that the issues of this life are final, and that a man who dies impenitent will have no further opportunity of salvation. His theory of progressive sanctification permits him to say that he believes that when a man dies in the faith he enters the middle state regenerated, justified, and sinless.

**KANSAS IMPEACHMENT CASE.**—The Botkin impeachment case, reported in THE STANDARD of April 29, under title of "Kansas," results in the acquittal of Judge Botkin. The article on which the largest number of Senators voted for conviction was Article 9, which charged that Botkin maliciously and illegally exercised the functions of his office. On this charge eighteen voted guilty, sixteen not guilty, and one did not vote. It required twenty-seven votes to convict.

**WEEKLY TREASURY STATEMENT.**—The United States Treasurer received from customs \$3,130,260, from internal revenue \$2,819,222, and from miscellaneous sources \$370,520; total from all \$6,320,002, against \$7,343,186 in the preceding week.

The weekly statement shows an increase of \$1,007,088 in net cash in vaults, and a decrease of \$92,667 in the deposits in National banks. By the statement, accordingly, the net cash in banks and vaults was increased by \$914,421.

As the amount of outstanding legal-tender notes issued in payment of silver bullion was reduced by \$300,029, the volume of money in circulation was reduced by a little less than \$1,250,000 by the operations of the Treasury.

The conspicuous feature of the statement continued to be the heavy loss of gold and the steady accumulation of silver.

The principal changes in the vault balances were made up as follows: A loss in the gold balance of \$2,437,641 by a loss of \$7,577,507 coin and bullion, minus a reduction of \$5,139,866 in outstanding certificates, and a gain in the silver balance of \$2,958,590 by an accumulation of \$1,216,871 bullion and a reduction of \$1,741,719 in outstanding certificates.

The legal-tender balance was increased by \$518,468, but there was no material change in the amount of National bank notes.

The Treasury's liability for the redemption of National bank notes was further reduced \$596,555, and the deposits of lawful money on that account were reduced to \$42,857,143.

Subjoined is to-day's statement:

Gold coin and bullion, less certificates and \$100,000,000 reserve.....	\$35,516,313
U. S. notes, less certificates.....	1,643,218
National bank notes.....	4,879,931
Silver dollars and bullion, less certificates.....	18,708,028
Cash in Treasury.....	\$60,747,490
Deposits in National banks.....	28,891,528
Total balance.....	\$89,539,018

**PRESIDENTIAL PARDONS.**—The President commutes the death sentences of the three Navassa rioters, to imprisonment for life, on the ground that, though they were proved guilty of felonious homicide, the conditions surrounding them were of such a character as to warrant executive clemency. He finds that they were removed from all opportunity to appeal to any court or public officer, for redress of their grievances; that their employers were their masters; that they were imprisoned and cruelly punished; that escape was impossible; and that the state of things generally was such as might make men desperate. The counsel for the Navassa Phosphate Company denies these charges of the President, and says that men in the employ of the company are as well provided for, and as well fed, as sailors aboard ship.

Navassa is a guano island in the Caribbean Sea. It is under the jurisdiction of the United States by virtue of an act of Congress, which provides that whenever any citizen discovers a deposit of guano on any island or rock not within the jurisdiction, nor occupied by the citizens of any other Government, and takes possession of it, it shall be, at the discretion of the President, considered as appurtenant to the United States.

The three convicts were employed by the Navassa Phosphate Co., the corporation now engaged in working the deposit there, and which derives its title from the American discoverer. Upon the commission of their offence, they were brought to Baltimore for trial, pursuant to an act of Congress, which provides that crimes



committed in such a place shall be tried by the United States Court of the district into which the accused is first brought, the same as if committed on board ship on the high seas. There, for killing six agents of their employers, in the riots of 1890, they were convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. It is this sentence that the President now commutes.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORTS IN FLORIDA.**—The House of Representatives of Florida pass a resolution reciting criticisms to which members have been subjected, and resolving that whenever it shall be represented upon the floor by any member that he has been misrepresented, misquoted, untruly criticized, his integrity in the performance of his duty questioned, or his motives impugned by any newspaper to whose representatives the courtesy of the floor has been extended and accepted, such representatives shall be ejected from the hall of the House and excluded until the House takes proper action.

**MASONIC ASYLUM.**—The Freemasons of New York gather at Utica to lay the corner stone of the new Masonic home.

**FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.**—The Council of the Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Orange, New Jersey. Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, President of the Federation, presided. Delegates were in attendance from clubs in Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, District of Columbia, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, Louisiana, Kansas, Missouri, and Utah.

**NEGRO ADVANCEMENT.**—Rufus Perry, Jr., son of a colored clergyman of Brooklyn, N. Y., and 22 years old, graduates from the New York University Law School, not only at the head of his class, but with the extraordinary credit of 100 marks. The next highest graduate received but 90. Mr. Perry has been elected class orator, and at commencement will speak on "Liberty as Embraced in the Constitution of the United States."

**TRUST LAW.**—Judge Thayer, of the United States District Court of Missouri, decides that a trust company has no recourse in law if a member of the trust violates the agreement not to go into business again.

The decision was rendered in the case of the American Preservers' Company against the Taylor Manufacturing Company. For years prior to 1888 the Taylor Company had been carrying on their business in this city, but the American Preservers' Trust bought out their business, for which they were to pay part cash and balance in trust certificates. The Taylor Company agreed not to go into business again in the county for twenty-five years, or until the trust died. In 1890 the company did go into business again, and when the American Preservers' Company brought suit to enjoin them they claimed that the agreement only bound the three stockholders who had signed it. As the trust did not allege that the company was bound by the action of those stockholders it was compelled to file another petition, and the Taylor Company then demurred, claiming that even if the company was bound by the agreement, such contracts were unlawful in the State of Missouri. The demurrer was sustained.

**DEATH OF ALPHONSO TAFT.**—Alphonso Taft, born in Townsend, Vt., November 5, 1810, died at San Diego, Cal., May 21, 1891. He was Secretary of War and afterwards Attorney-General under Grant, and Minister at Vienna and at St. Petersburg under Arthur.

**ITALIAN CONTROVERSY.**—Consul Corte sailed on the steamer City of New York from New York for Liverpool, whence he will go to Rome. He brought with him from New Orleans Gaspari Grimaldo, a boy of fourteen, who was in the jail at the time of the massacre, and whose father, also in jail then, was killed by the mob. The boy was accused of having given the signal for the attack on Hennessy.

Mayor Shakespeare, of New Orleans, addresses a letter to Governor Nicholls, of Louisiana, relative to the letter of the Italian Consul, Corte, reported under this title in THE STANDARD of May 13. The Mayor encloses a copy of that letter, says that the Consul conveyed it to the daily papers for publication, mentions various newspaper interviews with the Consul, and asks that the Governor request Secretary Blaine to procure the recall by the President of the exequator of Consul Corte. Consul Corte left behind him for publication, if occasion should call for it, a letter in his own defense, which the custodian has given out for publication by way of reply to the letter of Mayor Shakespeare. In this, the Consul gives his version of the massacre of the prisoners, charging, on information, that known police officials, and some members of the Grand Jury, were in the mob.

The story of this affair is told, under this title, in THE STANDARD of April 23d and 29th, and May 6th, 13th and 20th.

**COKE REGION STRIKE.**—Though the coke workers in convention early in the week voted unanimously to remain out, after a few days they were advised by their leaders to return to work. The strike is, therefore, practically at an end. The men seek work; but those who have been active as leaders or committeemen, are refused employment. The number of the blacklisted is put as high as 1,000.

Of eighteen strikers on trial for riot at the coke works, where the deputies fired upon and killed seven strikers, as narrated in THE STANDARD of April 29th, under title of "The Coke Region Strike," six were acquitted, and twelve convicted. Captain Loar and the deputies were acquitted of the charge of murdering the strikers whom they shot on that occasion. Loar admitted the shooting, but pleaded self-defense.

**THE FUGITIVE ITATA.**—Regarding the chase by our Government of the Chilean insurgent steamer Itata, reported in THE STANDARD of May 20 under this title, and May 13 under title of "Escape of the Insurgent Chilean Transport," Chilean agents called on Minister Reid in Paris to induce him to advise his Government to countermand its orders to the Charleston. Mr. Reid listened unofficially, but refused to communicate with his Government in regard to the request.

It was rumored at Washington that, if the Itata succeeded in making a Chilean port before capture, it would unload and then surrender to the United States for trial for violation of the neutrality laws.

The latest actual news comes from a vessel just arrived at San Francisco, which reports having met the Itata on the 15th, sixty-five miles from Acapulco, sailing southward and followed by the Charleston which was about 130 miles behind.

**NEWFOUNDLAND.**—Mr. Morine, who was sent by the Newfoundland delegates in London to carry the draft of a temporary Colonial bill to the Legislature, arrived with it at St John's. Lord Knutsford has not agreed to the proposed bill, but intends to push his own bill through the Commons, and the Newfoundland delegates are anxious to secure the passage of the temporary Colonial bill, not for the purpose of satisfying Knutsford, but for the purpose of securing the support of the Liberals in defeating Knutsford's bill. Mr. Morine addressed both Houses of the Colonial Legislature. In his speech he read a dispatch from the other delegates, urging immediate passage of the temporary bill in order to strengthen the case of the colony in the Commons. This bill secures the enforcement of the *modus vivendi*, the arbitration award, and the treaties for one year; and it provides that at the expiration of that period a permanent act shall be passed. All the proceedings in the Colonial Legislature are with closed doors. The story of the affairs to which the bill relates is told in THE STANDARD of May 6, under title of "Newfoundland's Threatened Revolution," and May 13 and 20 under title of "Newfoundland."

**SIR JOHN MACDONALD'S MAJORITY.**—A test vote on a motion by the opposition in the Canadian Parliament to amend the franchise act, showed a majority of twenty-nine for Sir John Macdonald's government.

**CHINESE IN CANADA.**—A deputation from the Trades and Labor Congress waits upon Sir John Macdonald, declares that the Chinese are undesirable immigrants, and asks him to devise some measures to still further restrict their landing in Canada. Sir John replies that the \$50 poll tax on Chinamen is restriction enough; that the Chinese do not as a rule remain in Canada, but land there with the intention of crossing to the United States; and that the United States has antagonized the Chinese Government by their exclusion policy, and therefore it would be unwise for Canada to jeopardize her Asiatic trade, which is being now built up at the expense of the United States.

**NOVIA SCOTIA.**—The Provincial Legislature of Nova Scotia is prorogued, Lieutenant-Governor Daly delivering the closing speech.

**RIOT IN ARGENTINA.**—A revolution broke out in the Province of Cordova. There was firing in the streets of Cordova, the capital of the province, on Thursday and Friday, and the insurgents cut the telegraph wires; but troops soon quelled the disturbance. The city of Cordova is situated in a valley on the Primero, and is about 380 miles west of Buenos Ayres. It is the centre of communication between Buenos Ayres and the upper provinces, was founded in 1573, and has a population of about 50,000. The Province of Cordova is near the centre of the Argentine Republic. It produces gold, and has fine and extensive forests.

**CHILI.**—An engagement took place at Pisagua last Sunday between the insurgent fleet and Balmaceda's torpedo vessels, and later in the week Balmaceda's forces recaptured Taltal, a town on the southern edge of the Nitrate coast, and a receiving point for supplies for several mining camps. It is regarded as a convenient



base of operations against Antofogasta and Iquique, now in the hands of the insurgents.

**BRAZIL.**—The Government has decided that in future all customs duties must be paid in gold.

**COSTA RICA.**—Mail advices from San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica, confirming the telegraphic reports published in *STANDARD* of May 13, under the title of "Reported Trouble in Costa Rica," disprove the official denials of a revolt against President Rodriguez. The revolt was immediately suppressed by the arrest of the leaders.

**EXPULSION OF QUEEN NATALIE.**—Queen Natalie, mother of the infant King of Serbia, and divorced wife of King Milan, who, in 1889, abdicated in favor of his son, has been expelled from the Kingdom.

In 1875, Natalie Keschko, who was the daughter of a Russian colonel, and was born in Roumania May 14, 1859, her mother being Princess Stourdza, of Roumania, married King Milan, of Serbia. They led a happy life for some years, and a son, Alexander, the present young King of Serbia, was born to them at Belgrade, the capital, August 14, 1876. The notorious relations of Milan with some women, notably with the wife of one of his ambassadors, disturbed the felicity of the royal couple. The king was the first to ask for a divorce, which was obtained in 1888 through a violation of the Servian law, and through political influences. Queen Natalie protested, and public opinion was so strong against Milan that on March 6, 1889, he abdicated. A regency was appointed to govern the country during the minority of King Alexander, and it was decided that, in order to free him from the influence of his parents, the latter should leave Serbia. Milan accepted the arrangement, which provided for the payment of \$200,000 and an annual income of \$60,000, to be furnished him by the Belgrade Regency. But the queen refused her consent.

The Servian Government has been contemplating, threatening, and taking steps in the direction of expelling Natalie for some time past. On May last the Prime Minister, M. Raschies, received a reply to a letter addressed to her, in which he had said that unless she left Serbia of her own free will the Government would adopt measures to forcibly expel her. In this reply she declared that in spite of the threats made to drive her from Serbia she would persist in her refusal to leave the country.

The Prefect of Belgrade was thereupon charged with the removal of the queen. This week, compelling her to enter a carriage, he drove her to the quay, for the purpose of placing her on board the royal yacht. The news reached the students' quarters, and they soon swarmed around the carriage, cheered the queen, detached the horses, and dragged the carriage back to the royal residence. On their way they came several times in collision with the soldiery, but succeeded in their design. Later, in a conflict between troops and partisans of the queen, two of the latter were killed and several were wounded. Immediately upon the rescue the cabinet assembled and remained in session until a late hour in the night.

On the following morning the ministers and the regents decided to enforce the expulsion. Instructions were accordingly issued to the police, and a strong force of soldiers made a fresh attack upon the students and the citizens who guarded the palace. They then forced their way into the queen's bedroom, compelled her to rise, and, after giving her time to dress, carried her in a private carriage to the railway station. When her bedroom was forced the queen advised her defenders to make no further resistance.

She was taken in a special train to Semlin, a fortified town of Austro-Hungary, on the right bank of the Danube, three miles from Belgrade. After remaining there one night, she left by special steamer for Giurgovo, the seaport of Bucharest, the capital of Roumania, whence she went to Jassy.

The opposition papers denounced the ministry for expelling the queen, and their editions containing the denunciations were confiscated.

The Liberals are organizing meetings throughout Serbia to protest against the expulsion as a violation of the Constitution.

**LABOR AND THE POPE.**—The Pope's encyclical referred to under this title last week, after being distributed among all the Cardinals, is given out for publication. It opposes communism as against the divine law laid down in the sixth chapter and twenty-first verse of Deuteronomy. To believe that the rich and the proletariat are condemned by nature to battle without end is described as a capital error, because "capital is powerless without work, and workmen are powerless without capital." In order to obtain respect for their rights, workmen are advised to abstain from violence, to avoid sedition, and to turn a deaf ear to the chimerical promises of agitators. On the other hand, masters are admonished not to abuse workmen inhumanly in their work, nor to exploit them beyond their powers. To watch over the purity, morals, and interior order of families, the safe keeping of religion, justice and moderation, and the equitable division of the public charges, are said to

be functions of the State; and, while the proletariat are recognized as having the same interest in the State as the rich, absolute equality is pronounced a chimera. The State is advised to care for workmen, and not to let them become a prey to speculators and usurers, and to impose a limitation upon working hours. Mutual benefit associations are approved, and a suggestion for revival of the old guilds is made. In conclusion, the encyclical states that universal co-operation is necessary, and that everybody ought to help willingly under the auspices of faith and Christian morality.

**POSTAL CONGRESS.**—The International Postal Congress held its fourth quinquennial convention at Vienna, where it is expected to remain in session for five or six weeks. The Austrian Minister of Commerce names as the object of the Congress the establishment of the basis of a scheme for linking together the civilized nations of the world in a single postal federation. The delegates of the United States are William Potter, of Philadelphia, and N. M. Brooks, Superintendent of Foreign Mails. The Postmaster-Generals of New South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand, none of which are now in the union, have promised to send delegates.

**GLADSTONE ON PROTECTION.**—To a bookbinder of London, who complained to Gladstone that the American tax of 25 per cent. on the net value of books would exclude valuable old volumes which had been rebound in England for exhibition at the World's Fair in Chicago, Mr. Gladstone writes:—"I sympathize with you in your exclusion from the United States by a regulation which is so peculiar as to be almost a caricature of the idea of Protection. On the other hand, I hope that you do not desire to see the principle of Protection established in England. As a rule, you will find that the system of Protection adopted by the United States disables that country in competing with us, or any of the other markets in the world."

**BRITISH RECIPROCITY.**—The adherents of the Imperial Federation League hold a meeting at Ottawa, Can., to put their scheme in shape. The paramount object of the league is to develop trade relations with England, and to this end to unite all societies and persons throughout the Empire who are interested in the extension of British trade, the security of capital, and the prosperity of labor, whether on land or sea, employers or employed, capitalists or wage-earners. At the meeting it was decided to petition the Dominion Parliament to memorialize the Imperial Government to call a conference of the colonies and the mother country for the purpose of considering the best means of promoting trade between the different parts of the British Empire.

**MANIPURI MASSACRE.**—The executioners of Quinton, referred to under this title in *STANDARD* of May 20, have been condemned to death.

**PERSECUTION OF HEBREWS.**—A state of siege has been proclaimed in Corfu, but the attacks upon the Jews reported under this title May 6 and 20 continue. The military protect the few Hebrew stores that have been opened. Twenty-seven persons, including two policemen, have been arrested for attacking the Hebrew residents.

Hebrews exiled from Russia are seeking refuge in England in large numbers and many are being sent to the United States by a friendly organization in London.

**PAPER MONEY IN SPAIN.**—At a Congress of delegates from all the Chambers of Commerce, the bill to extend the charter of the Bank of Spain and to empower an unlimited issue of notes was discussed; and a deputation was sent to the Premier, Senor Canovas del Castillo, to ask a postponement of the bill. He admitted that the project was unsatisfactory; but said he was unable to postpone the bill, though any amendments proposed by the Congress would be considered.

**RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.**—A marriage has been arranged between the Czarowitch and Princess Helen, fourth daughter of Prince Nicholas, of Montenegro.

**PARNELL v. MC CARTHY.**—Dr. Joseph F. Cox, a member of Parliament, who has been on a tour of the United States and Canada, invited such Irishmen as Eugene Kelly, Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet, Judge Joseph F. Daly, William R. Grace, Senator William L. Brown, and Judge Morgan J. O'Brien, to confer with him at the Hoffman House in New York City. As a result of the conference, a resolution, presented on behalf of the Irish Parliamentary Fund Committee, was adopted. It declares that in the present crisis the first and paramount duty of the Irish Parliamentary Fund Committee is to relieve the distress of the evicted tenantry of Ireland; and to that end, the committee "requests, urges, and demands" that Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Parnell appropriate all the moneys now on deposit in Paris to the relief of the distress of the tenantry.

A new Home Rule organization was formed, at the same time,



with Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet as President, and Eugene Kelly as Treasurer.

Previous to the conference, a meeting of the executive committee of the Irish Parliamentary Fund Association was held, at which it was decided to devote the fund now in the hands of Mr. Kelly to the relief of the evicted tenants. Mr. Kelly thereupon forwarded the fund, about \$15,000, to a committee consisting of Archbishop Croke and Justin McCarthy.

**IRISH LAND BILL.**—Balfour has amended his land purchase bill so as to enable tenants who pay £50 or less for their holdings to take advantage of the opportunity it offers to buy out their landlords with Government funds.

**ANOTHER IMMORTAL.**—Louis Marie Julien Viaud, known to literature as Pierre Loti, is elected to the vacancy in the French Academy created by the death of Octave Feuillet. He was born at Rochefort, January 14, 1850, and was admitted to the French Navy in 1867.

**CZAROWITCH.**—The French embassy, at Tokio, Japan, forwards its official version of the assault upon the Czarowitch, reported last week under title of "Assaulting the Czarowitch." It is in effect that the Czarowitch and Prince George of Greece visited a Buddhist Temple, and were guilty of the impropriety of going to the shrines with their boots on. The Chief Bonze of the Temple, casually complaining to the Japanese guards, one of them, named Thunda, dealt the Czarowitch a blow with his sword. Prince George returned the blow, and the guard, rushing to a second attack, was struck down with a sword by another guard.

The Russian Legation at Washington explains, however, that the Czarowitch probably knew better than to enter a Japanese temple with his boots on.

The Emperor of Japan conveys his regrets to Russia for the assault, and directs that justice take its speedy course.

**PORTUGAL.**—Signor Janurio undertook to form a ministry in place of the one which resigned, as reported last week under title "Resignation of the Portuguese Ministry;" but he withdrew when he found that after completing the work of selection he had given the Progressists a majority over the Conservatives on the question of electoral reform. Signor de Serpe Pimental, who was then selected for the duty by the king, chose the following: General de Sousa, President of the Council and Minister of War; Senor Vaz, Minister of the Interior; Senor Marianho Carvalho, Minister of Finance; Senor Moraes Carvalho, Minister of Justice; Senor Vilasna, Minister of Marine and of the Colonies; Count Valborn, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Senor Castello Branco, Minister of Public Works.

The new ministers were received by the King, who administered the oath of office to them. The policy of this cabinet is said to embrace liberty of the press, commutation of sentences for political offences, reduction of public expenditures, and a system of commercial treaties with foreign countries.

**FIGHTING IN SOUTH AFRICA.**—A serious conflict appears to have taken place between the British and the Portuguese colonists in South Africa. Troops stationed at the Portuguese military post on the Pungwe, attacked the British South Africa Company's expedition, commanded by Commissioner H. H. Johnson. Seven Portuguese were killed. The British loss is unknown.

**BELGIAN STRIKE.**—This strike, reported last week under this title as having collapsed, appears to have been compromised on an agreement for extending the suffrage. The qualification of suffrage is the payment of \$8 annually in direct taxes. This makes requisite the ownership of an amount of property that confines suffrage to about one-thirteenth of the adult male population, or about twenty-two in every thousand of the total population. The strike has resulted in an understanding, advised by the King, that a convention for the revision of the Constitution in the direction of universal suffrage shall be held.

**WAGES AND WORLD'S FAIR.**—The World's Fair directory resolves not to grant the minimum wages asked for by the labor organizations.

#### IS HARRISON AN ABSOLUTE FREE TRADER?

Extract From Mr. Harrison's Omaha Speech.

The theory of our government is large individual liberty. It is that we shall take out of the way all legislative obstructions to the free, honest pursuit of all human industries; that each individual shall in his own place have the best chance possible to develop the highest prosperity for himself and his family.

#### THE "SOFTENING" OF THE "STIFF" PROTECTIONISTS.

Boston Globe.

The stiffest "Protectionist" of the present time is softening so that he would have been considered a passable tariff reformer three years ago. The world do move, and the tariff question moves with it.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### A CHURCH TARIFF.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: This is too good to lose.

In Omaha, Neb., is a priest of the American Church (usually called "Episcopal"), named Williams. He began life as a machinist, but has been in the priesthood twenty-three years. He is now fifty-six years old, but straight as an arrow, clean-cut and trenchant. He is the outspoken foe of monopolies of all sorts, is an active member of the Order of the Knights of Labor, and denounces the corruption of the Church and of society in ringing terms, and with good temper. Of course, he believes in free churches, and that when a house has been consecrated to God, the Father of all men, any of His children has a right to come and take his place there without tax or toll, and that no one has a right to own any part of such a building.

In his last parish paper he asks for means to put a coat of paint on the church—St. Barnabas'. He says:

"St. Barnabas' people are too poor to build a new church, and we confess, privately, that we are too proud to beg for it, and too prudent to think of building one with the modern ecclesiastical appendage of a heavy mortgage. Fine churches and heavy mortgages mean slavish dependence upon wealth, upon pew rents, if wealth please."

"But now the painting has become, not a luxury, but a necessity, unless we choose to permit Dean G—— and Dr. D—— to 'point with pride' to us as a perpetual warning against the danger of attempting to own a church upon any other principles than that of 'a tariff for revenue,' with incidental protection to the infant industry of modern Christianity, with reciprocity between the contracting parties in the pews and pulpit, in the dim background, our sugar for your taffy, with the balance of trade variant."

JAMES O. S. HUNTINGTON, O. H. C.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: The enclosed clipping, from the advertising columns of to-day's New York World, is so suggestive that it tells its own story and hardly requires any comment to make its significance perfectly plain:

A man of thirty, single, has never used tobacco or liquor in any form, being out of employment, wishes a sleeping-room in either private house or factory, or would wait on an aged couple to any extent; understands the firing of boilers; his object is to lessen his present expenses by having a sleeping-room free for the services he would render in the early morning and evening hours, and so he would have the day to look for a daily situation, which, if he gets, would not interfere with the services for the room; will refer to those he has served during the past as to his honesty and habits; will leave in the morning and return in the evening; respectable. Address WILLIAM, 604 Eight avenue, lock box 463.

While it seems so difficult to keep Single Tax men united in organizations of a social nature, there is no lack of propaganda work to be done by individuals if they will only seek the opportunities which exist in all our large cities. Such a one was called to my attention recently when I was asked to attend a meeting of 350 locked-out machinists of E. W. Bliss & Co., last Friday. I was given a cordial invitation to speak, and for nearly an hour I endeavored to point out the reform in our social system necessary to remove the cause of strikes. Although the minds of the audience were evidently more intent upon their particular grievance than upon economic questions, my remarks were listened to with attention and my points quickly taken.

Labor organizations are getting in the habit of holding public meetings in their lodge rooms, when any speaker who understands himself and his subject is sure to be well received. Lyceums, literary societies and like organizations, can be reached with a little effort, and my experience is that they never fail to show their appreciation of our doctrines when intelligibly presented. Supplemented by the distribution of tracts, the amount of propaganda work that can be thus carried on is practically limitless. Now who will take the lead in an organized effort in this direction.

Yours truly,

ALFRED J. WOLF.

## NOTES AND QUERIES.

Detroit has of late been making great strides in the matter of tax reform, for which THE STANDARD has been profoundly grateful, and we have endeavored to keep our readers posted on what was going on in that city as well as circumstances would permit. Two weeks ago, "on information and belief," we stated that in the great work being done by the Mayor of Detroit he was ably assisted by the Common Council and Assessors of that city, who were elected as Republicans. We are glad we printed that statement, for it has brought a letter from Howard Holmes, of Detroit, in correction, and in which he gives the information that Single Taxers are thick in the Municipal Government. Mayor Pingree, Mr. Holmes says, is a Republican, but he is a Single Taxer so far as he has thought out its application to local taxation. He is a large landowner and a great



shoe manufacturer. His two partners are Single Taxers unlimited. Two of the three City Assessors are Single Taxers, so far as State and local taxes go, and they are Democrats. The Council is Democratic, instead of Republican. The President of the Council, John Chris Jacob, is a Single Taxer. And all readers of THE STANDARD know of Alderman Ferdinand Amos, whose persistent efforts have kept the question of local taxation of railroad property in sight, and who has done so much for our cause in Detroit. Mr. Amos is a Democrat, but he is heartily co-operating with Mayor Pingree in the matter of reforming the tax laws.

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The Prussians know how to enforce their protective tariff laws. A week or so ago the frontier guards at Neurode fired into a crowd of women and children, suspected of trying to smuggle into German territory more flour than the law allowed, for use during the Whitsuntide holidays. The guards did not try to prove their suspicions, but fired into the crowd on general principles, killing one girl and seriously wounding two boys. The people of that country will learn to so conduct themselves in future that armed ruffians will have no cause to suspect them.

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Henry C. Rew, of Chicago, is a patriot. His city is afflicted with the "smoke nuisance," from which all great cities suffer. He says there is only one way to abate the nuisance, and that is to use gas fuel, and he wants the city to supply the gas. But, in case the city needs help to establish a municipal gas plant, Mr. Rew offers to subscribe \$25,000 toward that end—man and money ready whenever wanted. He thinks, however—and he emphasizes the point in a circular which he caused to be distributed throughout Chicago—that the citizens of that city should come forward immediately and raise a large fund, and that the work of building the plant should begin immediately, so that by the time the World's Fair is opened, the visitors will find themselves in a smokeless city. THE STANDARD sincerely hopes that the people of his city will take up Mr. Rew's idea, and push it along until it becomes a fact; because then we will have an object lesson that will be invaluable as showing how much more we pay for gas than we ought to, not to speak of the blessings that would flow from the cleanliness we would enjoy in the absence of smoke in the air and ashes in the streets.

#### MICHIGAN THE BANNER SINGLE TAX STATE.

Some years ago in a Western city a party of men were telling each other of their travels over the world, the sights they had seen and the cities they had visited. After a time the talk shifted around to the size of the cities, and the question came up as to which was the largest of them all. London seemed to be favored by a majority of the party, though some named Paris, and others cities in China and Japan. But one of the party, a fine looking man who had said nothing up to this point, here ventured the remark that he had traveled some himself; that he had been in "the biggest city in the world, and it was neither of those named."

"What is the name of your city?" asked his somewhat astonished listeners.

"Louisville, Kentucky," answered the fine looking man.

The party roared at this answer, whereat the fine looking man, somewhat nettled, said:

"Well, I'll back my opinion with money. A thousand dollars or any part of it says I'm right."

The bet was snapped up, and, of course, Bill Briggs—for that was his name—lost his money. Yet Bill was hardly to blame for the bet that he made. Louisville, Kentucky, was "the biggest city in the world" to him. It was the city of his youth; he had always looked on it and thought of it with affection.

To-day, Single Taxers have not only a city, but a State, each of which is "the biggest in the world" to them. Detroit is the name of the first and Michigan of the second. Judged from the point of population the Single Taxer would lose his money if he bet on either being "the biggest in the world," but judged from the point of progress in Single Tax ideas the bet would be his by a large majority.

Two cities of Michigan, so far as heard from, have Single Taxers for Mayors—Detroit and Adrian. The first is a Republican and the second a Democrat. The work so far done by Mayor Pingree has gone into history, with that of his able assessors. The work of Mayor Hoch is yet to be done; but there is no doubt as to what it will be, seeing what an example has been set for him by the Mayor of the larger city—beg pardon, "the biggest city in the world."

Detroit and Michigan are the "biggest" city and state in the world for another reason. Within the boundaries of the two is located the first avowed Single Tax daily newspaper of the United States. Hundreds of the great dailies of the country—among them the Times, Sun, World and Commercial Advertiser, of New York City; the Chicago Herald; Harrisburg Patriot; Philadelphia Record, and many others whose names we cannot now recall—have pronounced in favor of the Single Tax in some fashion

or other, and then forgotten all about it; but from the time of its first declaration, over two years ago, to the present, the Detroit News has never wavered. In season and out it has steadily proclaimed—from the house tops, as it were—the truth that would set men free. What its influence has been in turning the thoughts of men toward the Single Tax no man can measure; but it is safe to say that it has influenced, in some degree at least, the official action of the Mayor of Detroit, the Assessors and the Common Council, and last, though by no means least, it undoubtedly influenced ex-Postmaster General Dickinson when lately he made his celebrated argument on taxation before the lower House of the Michigan Legislature. Its latest editorial utterance (printed in last week's STANDARD) for the Single Tax, is yet fresh in the minds of our readers. Nothing better was ever said in behalf of our cause than in the concluding paragraph of that editorial:

When land is used productively it increases the wealth of the community. And when wealth is being produced, under freedom of trade and freedom of contract, the portion going to labor is the full reward of labor. That is labor's millennium. It can get no more. There is no more to get.

In the News of Sunday, May 17, appears a series of interviews on the Single Tax with leading citizens of Detroit, which will have a wonderful influence in stirring people's minds in that city, because of the positions the interviewed occupy in the city government and in business.

Hazen S. Pingree, the Mayor, is a boot and shoe manufacturer and owns about \$150,000 worth of real estate. He was absent from the city, but his business partner, J. B. Howarth, authorized the News to state that Mr. Pingree favored the Single Tax theory because he believed that its enactment into law would relieve both capital and labor from the present unjust and oppressive system of land tenure.

J. B. Howarth, of Pingree & Smith, boot and shoe manufacturers, and owner of \$50,000 in real estate, said he had been an advocate of the Single Tax for seven years; first, because it was a just tax, and, second, because it was expedient. Here, it might be noted, parenthetically, was another influence that may have swayed Mayor Pingree in the gallant fight he has been making.

Frank C. Pingree, who is largely interested in real estate, was a Single Taxer, because he believed that the adoption of the system would prevent speculation in real estate; that through it the land now held for speculative purposes would be forced into the market to the benefit of all the people, except land speculators, who now thrive at the expense of the industrious.

James E. Scripps, who, with his brother, owns about \$500,000 worth of Detroit real estate, favored the Single Tax because it seemed to him that a tax on land values was the fairest and most equitable system that could be devised. The present complicated system of taxation, he thought, offered too many opportunities for evasion and fraud.

Cornelius J. O'Flynn, lawyer and owner of \$25,000 in real estate, said that in his opinion Henry George had presented the only feasible remedy for the evils connected with the land question. That remedy is to make the holding of large tracts of land burdensome by placing all the expenses of Government upon real estate. There is as much suffering among the poor in our large cities caused by the present tenure of land as there is in Ireland.

John Bridges, Assistant Superintendent of the Detroit Water Works and owner of \$3,500 worth of city property, favored the Single Tax because it will be to future generations what Christianity was to the plebeians of ancient Greece and Rome. The Single Tax will elevate the human race by giving labor its full reward.

James Gourlay, of Gourlay Brothers, owner of about \$100,000 in real estate, said the Single Tax was much to be preferred to the present system.

Ex-Congressman Wm. C. Maybury, owner of about \$50,000 in real estate, said that when first presented to him, the Single Tax appeared preposterous; but now he confessed it was gaining in favor with him.

Ellwood T. Hance, lawyer, postmaster of Detroit, and owner of \$20,000 in real estate, believed the Single Tax to be the only correct method of collecting the money necessary to defray the expenses of government.

Theodore P. Hall, grain dealer, and owner of about \$200,000 in Wayne County real estate, said that, in his opinion, land values ought, alone, to bear the burden of taxation. Said he: "The unearned increment argument is really unassailable. It comes within every man's experience and observation. A landowner who fails to improve his property, and stolidly waits for the community around him to work, plan, build and produce, to the end that his real estate shall increase in value without any exertion or expense on his own part, is taking a legal but unjust advantage of his fellow man. Ninety-nine persons out of one hundred will reprobate his conduct as mean and selfish, but it is less his fault than that of the present system of land tenure and taxation. The Single Tax will stop all this. It goes without saying that any law that will stimulate improvement of property will do the greatest good to the great-



est number, which is the end of all good government. This, I firmly believe, the Single Tax will accomplish."

Joshua Waterman, retired lawyer, capitalist and owner of \$200,000 in real estate, said he believed the principle of taxing land values alone, as advocated by Henry George, was the only correct method of raising revenues for the support of Government.

John G. Talford, boot and shoe dealer, and owner of \$3,000 in real estate, favored the Single Tax because it would immediately stop speculation in real estate, so that the great mass of men who now placed their surplus capital in land and waited till the labor of other men had enhanced the value of their property, would then, under the Single Tax, be compelled to invest it in manufacturing or other industrial pursuits, and thus increase the production of the community.

Victor Collian, engineer, inventor, and manufacturer and owner of about \$30,000 in Detroit real estate, said that the Single Tax idea seemed to him to contain the very essence of economic truth.

J. W. Donovan, lawyer, and owner of \$11,000 in real estate, favored the Single Tax on land values because more men are made rich by a city being built on a farm than by either earnings or savings, and such men owed it to the community to bear the burdens of taxation.

J. L. Hudson, clothier, and owner of \$50,000 in Detroit real estate, favored the Single Tax because, first, he believed land values should pay all the taxes, and second, because he saw no other way in which labor could secure its full reward. He believed the Single Tax would do more to alleviate the hardships and relieve the wants of the poor than any other reform now proposed.

R. W. King, retired merchant and owner of \$12,000 in real estate, said that the present system of taxation was utterly wrong. He was, therefore, in favor of a tax on land values alone, and regarded it as the only scientific method of taxation. It would have the effect of discouraging speculation in land, which was the bane of American civilization.

George Gourlay, of Gourlay Brothers, haberdashers, said that the Single Tax was the wisest, simplest and only just method of taxation. The present system of land tenure was a barefaced robbery of the masses. "When," he continued, "the truth dawns on a majority of the people of this country, then will come the greatest revolution in our social and economic structure since matter sprang out of chaos. It will be the dawn of a new Christianity, such as Christ taught, but which could never be realized under economic conditions of the past."

James H. Donaldson, merchant tailor and owner of about \$5,000 in real estate, said that his reason for believing in the Single Tax theory was that its adoption would benefit humanity and wrong no class. It would increase the production of every article of human consumption, and would give labor and capital its due reward without paying toll to land owners. The present system discourages enterprise and places a penalty on improvement.

Henry Koester, of Kennedy & Koester, jewelers, owner of \$3,000 in real estate, said he believed in the Single Tax because it was a just tax. He thought it would receive the support of all business men except those who are large land owners.

Edwin Jerome, furniture dealer and owner of \$20,000 in real estate, did not know of any reason why every man should not believe in the Single Tax. It would, he said, be an eminently fair system, and infinitely better than the present mode, which virtually fines real estate owners for improving their property.

Henry C. Weber, hardware dealer and owner of \$20,000 in real estate, said: "Land is improved and enhanced by labor, which, of course, includes manufactures, mercantile business and commerce. As labor alone gives value to land, it is only just and proper that labor should receive back what it gives. I am, therefore, unreservedly in favor of taxation on land values alone, and I believe that taxation of improvements or any other description of personal property oppresses both capital and labor."

T. B. Rayl, hardware dealer, said he believed in the Single Tax as the only equitable manner of paying the expenses of government.

Dr. Wm Lockhart, owner of \$10,000 in real estate, said he was an advocate of the Single Tax idea, and believed that its adoption would bring about a state of affairs that would be of great benefit to all classes of men and would injure none.

In its editorial columns the News drew attention to these remarkable interviews "with well known Detroit business men, who for various reasons express their preference for that system of taxation known as the Single Tax on land values," and it welcomed them "to the ranks of that rapidly forming class who are now paying some attention to economic questions, and who are thereby becoming better citizens and less likely to be led by the noses by party leaders. In concluding its editorial it stated the problem thus:

The theory of the Single Tax advocates is very simple. They believe that whatever is necessary to be done should be paid for from those values created by the community as a whole. This is land value.

Let one illustration of what is meant by land value suffice.

Thirteen pioneers start out with their families to hew for themselves homes in a new country. They come to a stream along the banks of which the land is fertile, and "where every prospect pleases." Here they decide to locate. The valley is divided into thirteen equal strips, each one running from the river back to the hills. All are equally fertile and equally desirable as farming lands.

This little community will require a schoolhouse, a grist mill, a church, a store and a blacksmith shop right from the start. Where is the most desirable location for these? Anyone will say in the centre of the thirteen farms, for that is the most accessible." That is No. 7:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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So, then, it is seen that farm No. 7 has a value independent of its soil. So have farms Nos. 6 and 8, but these values are not so great. So also have farms Nos. 5 and 9, yet in a diminishing ratio. Until at last when one comes to farms Nos. 1 and 13 the only value there is that created by the cultivators themselves.

Any new settler coming in would pay more for farm 7 than for any other. It would have advantages over the others worth paying for. And this advantage arises solely from location, and the owner has contributed nothing to it. It is a community value, to take which, in taxes for community purposes, does no injustice to anyone.

This is just what has happened in Detroit. The value of one lot over another is solely because of location, and when taxes are so placed that each lot will pay only its share of the community expenses, in proportion to the value created by the community, those values created by labor will remain with the laborers, and no one except land speculators, as speculators, will be injured.

#### FALSEHOODS FOR EXPORT.

The Melbourne (Australia) Age has a correspondent in this city who is giving out Protective tariff news at long range, which will be news even here where the correspondent lives. He says that "the McKinley tariff law is rapidly demonstrating that it is in the interest of the wage earner as well as of the capitalist." Hear the fellow:

Not a day passes that we do not hear of the starting up of idle factories, the opening of new ones, and increase of wages on the part of employers, of shorter hours for the employees, or the formation of companies for manufacturing purposes, which were impossible under the old tariff. One of the Free Trade newspapers is the authority for the statement that a worsted manufactory which will employ 800 operatives, is to be started near Philadelphia, a company having been formed for the erection of the buildings, and the purchase and setting up of the needed plant. Of course, it does not say this enterprise is in consequence of the McKinley tariff, but no other inference is easily possible. The same paper announces the organization of the Scranton Lace Company, for the purpose of making lace. The machinery will be brought from Nottingham, England, and the management will be in the hands of an experienced lace maker from that city, though the capital is American, and only a sufficient number of operatives to instruct the green hands will be imported. In one newspaper I read the announcement of some ten or twelve manufactories of different kinds, and in the same paper are the names of twenty or more establishments that have increased the wages of their employees all the way from five to fifteen per cent. One manufacturer of pearl buttons has increased wages fifteen per cent., and is to employ double the present force as soon as the necessary extensions of plant are completed. I mentioned in my last letter the establishment of a linen manufactory in Minneapolis. Before this letter reaches Australia the mill will be in operation, unless prevented by causes now unforeseen. In the same city, which is an important centre of the flouring industry, a macaroni manufactory is to be set up and will employ 1,000 operatives, to convert American flour into the best quality of "Italian macaroni." And so the story goes everywhere, and the scare which was engendered by the McKinley tariff, when it went into operation, has pretty well disappeared.

Strange to say, this correspondent says not a word about the "tremendous growth of the tin plate industry," which has been occupying all the ability and attention of the Protection editors of this country. It is easy to understand the reasons underlying these letters to the Age. Free trade ideas are becoming popular all through Australia, as a result of the visit of Mr. George to that country; and it is hoped by the Protection element there that those ideas can be best overcome by making it appear to the Australians that the high protective measures passed by the last Congress have resulted in increased prosperity. The complete answer can be given in three words: The correspondent lies. For proof, we point to the failure of the proposed great eight hour strike; the failure of local strikes everywhere; the general dullness in business; the large increase in the number of the unemployed; and the consequent almost general reduction in wages. Times are bad in this country, and the working people know it, despite the statements of the New York correspondent of the Melbourne Age to the contrary.

#### KATHLEEN McVOURNEEN'S PARDONABLE PRIDE.

Kathleen McVourneen is filled with a glad pride. She has been in this country only six weeks or so. She came here from one of the little villages in the County Roscommon, Ireland, to make her fortune, and is now employed in the family of a Single Taxer. Kathleen left behind a dear mother, a sister and a brother, who cultivate, with the assistance of a hired man, a little farm of twelve acres. "My brother Pat does be workin' in the field; Annie, that's



me sister—kapes the house, an' me mother takes what we raise to market—she do be a grand hand at sellin'. When I was home I worked in the field wid Pat. We make butter to sell, have pigs (who almost pay the rint—thirty pounds a year), chickens and a turkey. The turkey belongs to me; and Annie tould me in a letther that it do be goin' to hatch—I'm so glad! In the field we grow vegetables, berries and oats. Annie an' me have a flower garden, each, of our own, and in the Spring the purty flowers do come out an' they look so beautiful. Me cousins and uncles and aunts do be sayin' that our flower gardens make our farm look the best of any in the village; an' Annie promised me when I left Ireland that she'd take care of my garden just the same as she did her own, and when I go back it will be there, as purty as ever, to welkim me home again."

These gardens on which Kathleen dwelt so affectionately are the cause of her feeling of pride. They made the farm, as her relatives said, "look the best of any in the village." And thereby hangs a tale. In the early part of this month (May), the commission that is roving over Ireland fixing rents, under the authority of the Government, came upon the peaceful village from which Kathleen had so lately emigrated. What they did is told in a letter which Kathleen received the other day. We will only give the gist of it, supplying fictitious names: The rent of the McDermott farm had been reduced one pound seven shillings; the McFadden farm one pound; the McMurphy's, four pounds; the McMurtry's, one pound six, and so on to the McGuffin farm, which adjoined the McVourneen farm, and is of equal size and fertility, on which the rent was reduced five pounds. After overlooking the McVourneen farm the commissioners decided, in view of its excellent condition and high cultivation, and after regaling their olfactories with the delicious fragrance of the flowers which grew in the girls' pretty little gardens, and after having been presented with a beautiful boutonniere each—that they would reduce the rent only seven shillings a year. This was the smallest reduction by far that was made in the village. Her people have the best and prettiest farm in that little village of County Roscommon. The royal commissioners have settled that question beyond a peradventure by reducing the rent by a less amount than any other farm there. And that is why Kathleen McVourneen is filled with a glad (and, we trust, pardonable) pride.

#### THE LAND QUESTION AND ITS SOLUTION.

The Belfast (Ireland) Star has come out for the Single Tax, as will be seen from the following, taken from a late editorial:

Irish tenant farmers are apt to fancy that the Land Question is: How are they most conveniently to become owners of the land they till? But suppose that this little question were once practically settled to their satisfaction—that their landlords were somehow got rid of—that every farmer were made proprietor of his farm—how long would such a settlement be allowed to last in peace?

The agricultural laborers would soon find out, as indeed some of them have found out already, that they too have a Land Question. They would ask, with sound reason on their side: "Was it then just for farmers that the Almighty made this green island? Are we to have no part or lot in it, save to work for subsistence wages on others' land?" There would then arise a Labor League, and a new Land War would rage.

Suppose next that the laborers got their little Land Question settled somewhat to their satisfaction—that the farmers were compelled to divide their land with them or take them into partnership—that thus every agricultural laborer had at least his "three acres and a cow." Not that there is any likelihood of things taking such a turn; but still suppose it for the sake of argument. What would happen then? There would still be a Land Question, for farmers and farm laborers are not the whole people.

Our townspeople, shopkeepers, tradesmen, factory and mill-workers, etc., would ask in their turn, with equal reason: "Are we then to have no property or interest whatever in the soil of our native country? What right have farmers and agricultural laborers more than we to share the earth that God made, who is no respecter of persons?"

So long as there remains a single citizen who cannot say: "I, too, am a joint owner of the land of this country, I have a right and interest in the land equal to the right and interest of any fellow-citizen," there will be still a burning Land Question, for there will be still an injustice underlying our social organization.

The real land question, therefore, is: How is every citizen—no matter what his particular department of service is—to obtain an equal interest with every other citizen in the land of his country? The answer to this vital question—the only answer suitable to the complicated conditions of our century—is: The nationalization or municipalization of the land. Let everyone pay a fair rent to the Community. Let all rent for land—apart from improvements, which, of course, are justly the property of those who make them—all rent for land alike in town, in mining districts, and rural districts—form a public revenue. Let this revenue be spent for public purposes, relieving the people from all other taxation, imperial, and local, and providing benefits equally free to all. Such a plan, if it were wisely carried out, would have beneficial consequences beyond the grandest dreams of our patriots and poets."

#### SO THEY ARE LUCKY ALL ROUND.

Martha's Vineyard Herald.

It is a fortunate thing for corporations that they have no souls, for they would have a tough time of it in the next world.

#### PERSONAL.

W. H. H. Wakefeld, editor of the Lawrence, Kan., Jeffersonian, has been informed that he has injured his paper's standing with the farmers by his occasional references to Free Trade and the Single Tax, and that some Alliance men have refused to subscribe on that account. In defence of the position he takes on those two questions, and in answer to his critics he says: "When one remembers that the worst, and in fact the only objection it is possible to bring against the Single Tax theory as applied to Kansas, is that it would relieve farmers of all taxation on their improvements and personal property, making their total tax the same as that paid by the speculator on a totally unimproved piece of equal area and natural value, in the same neighborhood—in short, that it would make farmers pay much less and speculators and non-residents much more tax—when one reflects that this is the worst possible construction which can be put upon this much-lid-about idea, the fact that farmers do not like it is only an impeachment of the farmer's intelligence, and not of our honesty in serving their interests."

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Willis M. Myers has purchased the Alachua Gazette, of Gainesville, Fla. The following is a part of his salutatory: "A belief in Jeffersonian Democracy, in the Farmers' Alliance, in the Single Tax, in the Australian ballot system, in a tariff for revenue only, and in all improvements that are feasible, that are true in their essential elements. Any plan that has the value of common sense and the object of ameliorating the condition of the human race, especially when looking to the betterment of the laboring man's hard lot, shall receive my earnest, undivided and continued support." The Single Tax platform is printed on the editorial pages.

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Charles O'C. Hennessy has retired from the editorial chair of the Home-Seeker because of his pressing work in daily newspaper journalism.

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Mr. Henry Ware Allen, lately of Kansas City, has started for the City of Mexico, where he will make his residence. Before leaving he visited his old home at Northboro', Mass., and while there presented to the Northboro' Free Library the last two volumes of THE STANDARD (being all of the numbers for the year 1890), bound together in a single book and having stamped on the cover, "The Single Tax—Equal Rights for All; Special Privileges to None."

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Under date of May 22, Father Huntington, in a private note to the editor of THE STANDARD, said that he expected to be in Kingston, Ontario, last Sunday, and in Montreal next Sunday, and hoped to meet "a good many of our people."

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Judge Henry A. Robinson, Labor Commissioner of Michigan, visited THE STANDARD office yesterday. The judge is another evidence of the rapid strides the Single Tax is making in Michigan. Although its Labor Commissioner, he is an avowed and open advocate of the cause. Judge Robinson says—and the interviews with Detroit business men, taken from the Sunday News, bear him out—that the Single Tax movement is becoming the popular movement of the day in his State. The workingmen are rapidly falling into line, for they have seen, through object lessons, how the present system of taxation works. Every day brings out men from unexpected quarters who have reasoned their way to the conclusion that the Single Tax is the only proper tax. The judge is here on business, and will visit several other Eastern cities before returning to his home.

#### LET US THANK HIS LUDSHIP.

Boston Globe.

The Duke of Marlborough says: "In America you have the most stable and conservative form of government in the world." Shades of Thomas Jefferson! To think that this so-called republican government of ours should ever win an English duke's praises as being more "stable" and "conservative" than that of his own country! It is about the worst thing that was ever said about our Constitution.

#### IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE, DON'T YER SEE?

Lowell, Mass., Citizen.

"Ah, is this your house? How much do you consider it worth?"

"That house, my friend, cost over \$10,000."

"I see, I am the new assessor for this ward, you know."

"Oh, ah—what did I say! I was thinking of the next house. This one of mine cost about \$5,000."

#### PROTECTIVE FINANCIAL POLICY IN A NUTSHELL.

Chicago Mail.

If the American consumer purchases only American-made goods the tariff taxes go into the pockets of the monopolists, who contribute part of their gains to the Republican campaign funds; if he buys foreign-made goods the tariff taxes go into the treasury to be dissipated by Republican extravagance in Congressional appropriations and misappropriations.

#### THE SAME HERE, UNLESS YOU HAVE "A PULL."

New York Weekly.

Foreign visitor (proudly)—In my country we have one law for prince and pauper.

American host—Same way here. It doesn't matter whether a man is a beggar or a millionaire, he's got to obey the law, unless he's got a pull.



## SINGLE TAX NEWS.

## SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,  
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, May 26, 1891.

The National Committee is circulating a petition asking the United States House of Representatives to appoint a special committee to make inquiry into and report upon the expediency of raising all public revenues by a Single Tax upon the value of land, irrespective of improvements, to the exclusion of all other taxes, whether in the form of tariffs upon imports, taxes upon internal productions, or otherwise. It will send blank petitions on application to any address, and Single Tax men are urged to obtain petitions and solicit signatures as a most convenient and effective way of starting the discussion of our principles.

It has also taken up the newspaper work of the Memphis committee, and is now engaged in circularizing newspapers in every State, calling their attention to the wide-spread interest now shown in the subject of the Single Tax, and urging that they call on the press companies supplying their ready prints and plates for Single Tax matter.

Subscriptions toward the expenses of this committee's work remain as reported last week, viz: \$1,678.40.

Cash contributions for work ending May 26, are as follows:

E. H. Boeck, Plattsmouth, Neb.....	\$ 65
Sundry contributions in postage stamps.....	1 55

	\$2 20
Contributions previously acknowledged.....	1,532 47

Total.....	\$1,534 67
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The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week.....	105,368
Signatures received since last report.....	487

Total .....	105,855
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For news budget, see roll of States.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

## BROKAW STILL EVANGELIZING.

BERESFORD, S. D., May 22.—Saturday, May 16, I sold twenty-two copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" and several other books, got quite a number of signatures and stirred up considerable interest. At night I spoke in K. of L. hall, being introduced by the editor of Plain Talk. There were about fifty attentive men present. A gentleman doing editorial work on the Republican, a G. O. P. paper, took notes and asked several questions. At the close he came up and introduced himself and said that he had read something of the subject in a magazine, from which he took most of his questions, but that he had only seen enough to arouse his curiosity. A farmer, who had seen and argued with me at State Alliance meetings, and who (so I had been told) had publicly challenged discussion on the subject, asked several questions, and afterward introduced himself, saying that he differed with me on some points, but agreed with the most I had said that night, and he felt sure I was doing a good work. One of the university professors was present. The questions were intelligent ones and greatly aided me in clearing up the difficulties. The chairman asked quite a number. At the close he paid me a high compliment, and called for a collection. He intends beginning the use of Single Tax plate matter soon, and proposes to keep the national Single Tax platform standing in his paper hereafter. One of the men with whom I had been staying with for several days is a great reader and has been a public speaker. He said: "Well, they did not corner you very much with their questions." He ordered "Progress and Poverty."

Sunday forenoon I drove to a farmer's place five miles north of Vermilion. Monday afternoon I rode to town and back with the farmer and attended to my mail. That night it rained some, but the country is pretty dry yet.

Tuesday, I drove to Beresford, selling a few books, getting signatures, and leaving literature along the road. There I met a leading Alliance man who introduced me to several business men and the two editors, all of whom signed the petition. I drove out a couple of miles east and put up with an Alliance member of the last Legislature. He showed me a copy of "Protection or Free Trade?" he had received from Colone Sheafe, of Watertown.

Wednesday I spent in Beresford. I met one man who affirmed that he heard Henry George speak in Toronto, Canada, and that he heard Mr. George say that he wanted to "divide up all property." Had quite a discussion with a group of men—one of them a runner—who defended private property in land. One of them—a loan agent—said that whatever was, was right; that because the majority did a thing it was right. I met several who said, as they signed the petition, "That's right; I believe in that." A Republican lawyer said he believed in that, but also in "Protection." He bought "Protection or Free Trade?" and "Property in Land," so I guess he will come out O. K. The Republican editor is packing up to leave the place. The other edits an Independent paper, and I persuaded him to try offering "Protection or Free Trade?" as a premium for new subscribers. I advertised to speak in G. A. R. Hall, Saturday, at 3 P. M.

I stopped Wednesday night with Robert Duncan, a prosperous farmer, who remembers the power of landlordism in Scotland, and who fully endorsed our national platform as soon as he read it. Thursday morning I drove to town and sold a few books, and then drove about seven miles north into Lincoln County, where "Betsy and I" dined. In the afternoon I drove a few miles west, and put up with a Single Tax farmer. Some men working for him bought books of me.

I have just finished reading the "Questions of the Day," by "Pa" Chase, and I want to request every Single Taxer to read it. You may not agree with quite everything he says, but you will find very little in it that you will not pronounce good common sense. Once you have read it, you will want all your friends to read it. It will help our cause, for, while it treats of many reforms, it continually shows how all the evils mentioned spring from land monopoly, and as persistently points to the Single Tax as the only

remedy. It impresses one with the vital relation of the Single Tax to all other reforms. It is full of apt illustrations and terse sentences. We owe "Pa" a unanimous vote of thanks for this valuable contribution to our educational artillery.

Friday forenoon I put in reading and writing. In the P. M. I drove to town and sold a few books. Find enclosed ninety-two petitions. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are county officials, two of them Republicans, who bought "Protection or Free Trade?" No. 4 is a Free Trade Democrat and favorable to the Single Tax. No. 5 is a prominent Republican and ex-member of the Legislature. No. 6 is a prominent Democrat and banker—both have a State reputation. No. 7 is an editor. Nos. 8 and 9 are leading Alliance men, the latter a member of the last Legislature. No. 10 is a merchant who favors the Single Tax. No. 11 is a Republican editor. No. 12 is a School Principal. No. 13 is an independent editor. Nos. 14, 15, 16 and 17 are merchants favorable to the Single Tax. No. 18 is a Protectionist lawyer, who believes in taxing land value for local purposes. No. 19 believes in the Single Tax. No. 20 is a man who heard me talk last Winter, but would not sign then; he bought "Protection or Free Trade?" this time.

W. E. BROKAW.

## SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

Rev. Horace Tilden, First Baptist Church, Des Moines, Ia., has recently preached on "The Causes of Poverty and What Poverty Causes" in a way that called forth the commendation of the Local Single Tax Club. They want our help to make him see the cat.

Weekly Free Press, Winnipeg, Manitoba, believes in Free Trade and Direct Taxation. Single Tax letters to it would help our Canadian friends.

Booker F. Washington, Principal Industrial School, Tuskegee, Ala.—A fine progressive young colored man ready for radical ideas. Let us show him how the Single Tax would free natural opportunities and thus solve the race problem.

Governor A. H. Burke, Bismarck, North Dakota, has recently promised to study the Single Tax thoroughly. He is said to be very intelligent, bright, earnest and courageous. He is a Republican.

Any letter writers who would like to enclose subscription blanks and sample passages from the ten cent edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" can have them freely in any desired quantity. Remember, it costs nothing to join the letter writers, and by using weekly one of our targets you greatly increase our efficiency as well as your own. In sending in names for targets, please give printed extracts from editorials or addresses whenever possible.

W. J. ATKINSON, 42 University place, New York.

## NEW YORK CITY.

The Managing Board of the Manhattan Single Tax Club will hold its monthly meeting next Friday evening. Thursday evening, June 4, the regular meeting of the club will be held at its rooms, 73 Lexington avenue.

## BROOKLYN.

G. W. Thompson.—On Wednesday evening, May 27th, an entertainment will be given by the Woman's Single Tax Club at the Brooklyn Single Tax Club, 198 Livingston street. An interesting literary and musical programme will be rendered. Messrs. Stansbury Noose, Peter Aitken and John F. Thompson, recently returned from South America, will make short addresses.

Monday evening, June 1st, the regular monthly business meeting of the Brooklyn Single Tax Club will be held. Amendments to its constitution and by-laws abolishing the managing board and substituting therefor committees, each of three, on house, finance and agitation, will be acted upon.

To make way for these amendments the managing board and officers have resigned, and at this meeting an election of their successors will take place.

E. L. Smith.—Mr. Thomas G. Shearman "talked" to the Woman's Single Tax Club of Brooklyn on "Competition." The room was filled with ladies who listened with interest. Questions were asked which were satisfactorily answered by Mr. Shearman.

Altona A. Chapman—Twenty-eight petitions. One-half were obtained in a canvass of only two blocks on the north side of Fulton street, where also I left by request five blanks for further consideration and approval. As I avoid entering Chinese laundries, Italian shoe or fruit stores, barber shops, restaurants, liquor saloons and real estate offices, all of which are well represented in the territory just canvassed, and as at a dozen or more places the proprietor was out, and none but minors were to be seen, it seems to me that this is not a bad showing for two blocks. At one store, where I got two names, one of them was that of the landlord; when the other man jocularly warned him that it would be against his interest to do so, he replied, "I don't care if I am a landlord, I'm going to sign it," this after a careful study of both sides of the paper. At another place I found a young man who admitted that he was a real estate speculator in a small way, that he owned a few lots in the suburbs that he hoped would be worth considerable in a few years, and that the Single Tax, if it went into effect, would deprive him of his expected profits. Still he was so impressed with the justness of the principle involved, that it required but very little persuasion to induce him to give me his signature. Interesting incidents of this sort abound, and I am persuaded that the majority of the people only need to understand the Single Tax to give it their hearty approval and support.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

S. T. Boston.—The Globe on Saturday last printed a portrait of Henry George, Jr., together with a complimentary notice. On Sunday the Globe printed a letter from him from England, which it commended to its readers. Action on the Street Franchise bill has been put off for a year.

A resolution has passed the Boston Senate providing for the collection by the Bureau of Statistics of Labor of certain statistics relative to land held in Boston and vicinity for speculative purposes and relative to the condition of families residing in rented tenements.

The Boston Globe last week printed a table of the selling price and



assessed valuation of real estate in that city, which shows that the assessed valuation of property is much nearer the selling price than it was a couple of years ago.

The Boston Social Science Institute was organized May 19. Its prospectus sets forth the objects of the institute to be "the union of all the reform elements in an educational work under the leadership of social science." It seeks also to do away with the antagonisms and bitterness which may arise over labor matters, by bringing together representative capitalists and labor reformers to talk matters over without passion and prejudice.

The cotton mills of Winchendon, known as the Nelson mills, have been shut down because the lessee could not pay the increased rent demanded by the landlord. The lessees, Nelson D. White & Sons, had operated the mills for fifty years. A large number of operatives have been thrown out of employment by this action of the landlord, and in a short time they will doubtless be able to recognize the relations that exist between capital and labor.

#### CONNECTICUT.

W. S. Brewer, Meriden.—Merriam, Rule, Cairnes and myself attended a Prohibition meeting last week. The subject under discussion was, "How should a party construct its platform so as to best conduce to the interest of labor." An invitation was extended to the strangers present (meaning ourselves) to speak upon the subject. Messrs. Rule and Cairnes accepted, and presented the Single Tax. Their remarks were very well received, and we were very cordially invited to come again. Some of them said it was the best meeting they had had in twelve months. A motion was passed giving us the privilege of selecting a topic for discussion at their next meeting. The same topic was extended.

#### DELAWARE.

J. M. Dorney, Wilmington.—Two petitions, signed by residents of Marshallton and Newark. I trust that Marshallton will, as its neighbor Newcastle has, take kindly to the Single Tax. The seed that is being planted now will show itself in the coming years.

#### WEST VIRGINIA.

Thad A. Dean, Parkersburg.—Seven petitions. The woods are full of Single Taxers here. Some know they are Single Taxers, while a great many are not aware of the fact. Judging from the present, we think there is hope for the future.

#### OHIO.

Franklin H. Smead, Cleveland.—Forty petitions. The Cleveland Central Labor Union has indorsed the Single Tax.

#### INDIANA.

S. O. Bishop, Clinton.—Thirty-one petitions. These petitions I have gathered here at my editorial desk, and they comprise a very representative element in our citizenship. The Single Taxers along the western border of Indiana may be few in number, and far between, but they are undoubtedly an enthusiastic and persistent set of workers in their own local fields. Among them I know of no one who is doing more effective work than Frank D. Blue, at Terre Haute. If there are any engineers or railroad men whom he hasn't tried to interest in the cause, I have yet to learn their names. The self-sacrifice of Brother Blue is something to make a man feel proud of the cause and strengthen his hope for the outcome in the future. Another quiet but very clear thinking and effective worker is Isaac H. Strain, at Dana. He is located in a fine agricultural community, and has the best of material to work on. We are determined that our citizens shall hear the Single Tax expounded this Fall here, and will make another effort to get a Single Tax speaker into the High School lecture course.

There being no political campaigns in this State this year, there is but little active work to report, further than the assiduous quiet work of propaganda, and we can only do that trusting that some day our work will show up.

State Secretary Claude Matthews dropped in the other day, and while he is a Free Trader in the Democratic sense, yet he recognizes the value of the timely aid of the real Free Traders, and cheerfully refers to our efforts as "missionary work."

The new Indiana tax law is already making a commotion among the land speculators, as it requires all lands to be taxed at their full cash value. We already hear of several large land owners who are getting exceedingly public spirited, and are anxious to lay out town lots and sell them, in order to escape the extra taxes. It is the entering point of the wedge, and the next thing will be to exempt personal property and improvements and have the land value tax, for that has come to stay.

#### ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, May 22.—We had another good meeting last night, in spite of the bad weather, a number of strangers being present and giving the closest attention to the speaker, Mr. George V. Wells, who undertook to answer the question, "What are we here for?" His address was an admirable presentation of the Single Tax, and it abounded in clever illustrations and humorous touches that were not lost upon the audience. In recapitulating, he said that anything that insures good wages and steady employment to every willing worker, insures the prosperity of the whole community, for upon the shoulders of labor rests the whole superstructure. As rent, or the selling price, of land goes up, wages go down. Turning the stream of rent from the pockets of individuals to the common treasury will minimize or reduce to a normal and healthy point the portion of the product that goes to rent and equalize the opportunity of every individual, so that none shall have an advantage over another. This done, wages will advance to the natural point—the product of labor. Capital will get its just return, the landlord will get—his wages, and the community will get its just and equitable portion of the product, and will cease to rob the individual. When this is done, poverty cannot exist, save as a result of acci-

dent or disease, and in the community-revenue we will have a sure and ample provision for those who fall by the wayside, and the words of the enthusiast, "the Single Tax means no tax at all, and a pension for everybody," may prove to be a final truth. That we have seen these things is the reason why we are here. There are no offices in sight for us, but there is a grand satisfaction, though sad it may be at times, in being in the van of the movement for the emancipation of the whole race of industrial slaves, which must precede the coming of that kingdom of Heaven on earth for which we have so long prayed.

The speaker was frequently applauded, and at the conclusion of his address he answered a number of questions, ex-Senator Castle being among those who sought information. The ex-Senator said he had become deeply interested in the Single Tax, and that he was trying to master its philosophy. Mr. Wells' address had afforded him much instruction and enlightenment, and he begged to be allowed to express his sense of personal indebtedness for the privilege he had enjoyed in listening to so able a paper. Continuing, he said that he was convinced that our present system of taxation was rotten to the core, and he was willing to go with us if he found the method we propose the true corrective of the terrible evils that he so plainly recognized. He was afraid that there was something dishonest in our proposal to abolish private property in land, but he was a learner and wanted to get at the truth. He then asked a number of questions which Mr. Wells answered with much spirit and apparently with no little satisfaction to the ex-Senator. The general discussion that ensued was participated in by Messrs. Place, White and some visiting member of the Manhattan Single Tax Club whose name I failed to get.

Vice-President J. T. Ripley and Secretary Frank W. Irwin have both been down to St. Louis this week on business. Mr. Marshall Beck has been in Ohio.

The Painters' Brotherhood of Chicago, some 900 strong, has become interested in the Single Tax, and last week invited Messrs. J. E. Devanon and James Malcolm to give a brief exposition of our philosophy. This they did with such good effect that the painters expressed a desire to hear more, and so they proposed to call an open meeting for the purpose if we would send a speaker. Of course we wanted nothing better than a chance to send them a speaker, and so Mr. John Z. White, whose fame is steadily spreading, was assigned to make the gentlemen of the ladder and brush a speech on Monday evening next. Mr. Devanon is entitled to much credit for getting the painters interested, and it is to be hoped that other members of the club will seek similar opportunities for spreading the light. There is room for great and profitable work in this direction and every friend of the cause ought to be vigilantly on the outlook for chances such as this which Mr. Devanon has so excellently improved. We have several good speakers who are always ready to respond to any call.

Announcements.—May 28, John Gibbons, LL.D., on "The Farmers' Movement;" June 4, Stoughton Cooley on "Proportional Representation;" June 11, Miss Isabella Hudson; June 18, Clarence Moeller; June 25, open; July 2, H. E. Bartholomew. The club last night formally invited its president to make an address at some future time and he will do so if he can muster up the courage and think of something to say. He has heretofore preferred, and even now prefers to let the other folks do the talking while he does the hustling, but if the brethren and sisters insist on it he will try to do a little orating too. But oratory is distinctly not in his line and he approaches the duty that has been thrust upon him with fear and trembling.

Charles R. McGinnis, Pullman.—This is a very poor town to talk reform in. Every one seems afraid or disinclined to express themselves on new ideas. Our local paper, the Advertiser, prints two columns of Single Tax matter every week, and we have had Mr. E. O. Brown and C. S. Darrow speaking several times; but the poor devils cannot pluck up courage to come out for the reform, although a great many acknowledge the justice of our claims. However, the continual reduction of wages is making some begin to think. Eighteen strikers quit yesterday, wages being cut so low that they could not stand it. I gave several of them Single Tax literature to study during their vacation. I hope it will do them some good.

Ernest Foord, Chicago.—Eight petitions. I also enclose some of my cards that I have just had printed—giving my residence number.

I find that some of the book stores here do not always have on hand the works of Henry George. I recently took a trip around to see and inquire, and the result is I am going to take especial pains to supply all who may have heard of the Single Tax, and want to learn more, by a careful reading of any or all of our leader's works, by making a sort of convenience of myself to the end that they may buy with the least delay and trouble to themselves. The easier and sooner they obtain our literature the sooner they will read and be convinced of the error of their ways and be "with us" hand and heart.

#### MICHIGAN.

Howard M. Holmes, Detroit.—Sixteen petitions. One is by the leading clothier of the city, who says he believes in the Single Tax. Detroit is fairly won to the Single Tax cause whenever we wake up and organize. I believe that two years hence we might concentrate our influence throughout the State and capture the Legislature. I should be proud to have my native State the first to adopt a Single Tax law.

#### MISSOURI.

"Pa" Chase sends the following for publication:

My dear Single Tax boys, I am delighted with the letters you daily send me regarding my little "Questions of the Day." I am so glad that you think they will do good for the cause of justice and truth. These expressions of yours assure me that you are active in the work of reformation. The greatest obstruction in the path of progress at this moment is the abominable Custom House. Tear that down, and then we can more easily get at the other lesser obstructions beyond. For when we get Free Trade we can get direct taxation, and direct taxation will convert the people to the Government absorption of rent.

"Free Coinage or Free Trade" is such a good tract, and the circulation of which is of so much importance, that I wish to contribute my mite (one dollar) to the fund for its distribution. The Farmers' Alliance papers ought to have copies.



## KANSAS.

William A. Garretson, Lincoln.—I told Mr. Post, the first minute or two after meeting him here last Winter, that I was the only Single Tax man in this neighborhood. I was correct, strictly speaking, but there are many men in this county who approach towards our position in varying degrees. I have serious disadvantages to work against, chiefly poverty and poor health, but I do most of my shooting at the larger game, and have already found cause for solid satisfaction in the results. That man, A. N. Whittington, member of the House, and now chairman of the board conducting the Botkin impeachment trial before the Kansas Senate, is a product of my work, both as a member of the Legislature and as a Single Tax man.

I am now working the best subject I have yet struck in the person of James De Buchananne, of Delphos, this State. He is an ex-preacher, an educated man and has fine abilities. I expect he will be giving Single Tax lectures before another year. I started him on "Protection or Free Trade?" and he promised to send for "Social Problems" and "Progress and Poverty," which he has no doubt done before this. I am now sending him my STANDARD.

If he develops as I hope he will, he will make a first-rate man to work for the "Reform Club" if they undertake any work in Kansas.

Congressman Baker, who lives in this town, don't amount to much. He is now off to Cincinnati attending the conference.

## CALIFORNIA.

E. H. Carpenter, Santa Monica.—Eight petitions. I find Mr. Isaac McCloskey "went through" this town before he went to Oklahoma, but I get one now and then. One man would not sign because he said the system of taxation was all right now, but before he got done talking, he told how the assessor came to assess him, and he brought out his wine, and he and the assessor had a jolly good time, and when the assessor went away his assessment was very light; and that, he thought, was all right, but I could not see it in that light.

Thomas Watson, San Francisco.—Ten petitions. I tell you there is going to be a circus in the Protection ranks out here before long, notwithstanding the visit of the Grandfather's Hat.

## NEW ZEALAND.

F. S. Platt, Auckland.—The Knights of Labor of Eketahuna have forwarded a series of resolutions to the Premier protesting against the unfair and burdensome manner in which present methods of taxation falls on wage earners, and claiming that nine-tenths of it falls on the consumer and is now borne by the wage earners. They demand at least a free breakfast table, and declare that "ground rent is the product of the whole people in their collective capacity as a community, and is therefore a proper source from which to obtain revenue." They request that the revenue required to meet the deficiency occasioned by the remission of the customs duties and property tax aforesaid shall be raised by a tax on land values. In his answer to the resolutions the Premier (Mr. Ballaner), told the Knights that he agreed with them to a large extent, and that it was only a question of a little time when they would be reduced to practice. He expressed the hope that in the coming session Parliament would proceed some distance in giving effect to the spirit of the resolutions.

In the newly elected House of Representatives there are at least two avowed Single Taxers, and as may be inferred from the Premier's reply to the Knights of Labor, a clear majority of land value taxers, which is good enough for the present. A stumbling block in the way is the Legislative Council (our nominated Upper House) which has been packed by the late Government in the interests of the monopolists. The Auckland Anti-Poverty Society publishes a monthly paper, Justice, which is sensibly influencing thought in the right direction. An assemblage of cockatoos (small farmers), who a year ago would have mobbed a Single Taxer, to-day are willing to listen to his arguments.

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

The letters received at the business office of THE STANDARD during last week show a gratifying increase in actual results from the efforts of our friends to promote the circulation of the paper and demonstrate that where a man starts out with the determination to obtain subscribers he succeeds. Mr. Snyder, of Tecumseh, Mich., for instance, says: "I got this subscription by merely asking for it. I think many might be procured in the same way if Single Taxers would make an effort."

We have no doubt that Mr. Snyder is right, though, of course, any one making the attempt must show reasonable discretion in the selection of the men to be approached. Of course every Single Tax man, unless he is very poor, may reasonably be expected to become a subscriber to THE STANDARD, but it is a great mistake to confine effort to such people. Every absolute Free Trader should be reached by recruit subscriptions. If this is done he will find that THE STANDARD is about the only paper in the United States that will really satisfy his demand for pure Free Trade arguments.

By the way, now that this work has got fairly started and is beginning to prove its value by results, we hope that our friends in New York City will begin to send for recruit subscription books and push the work amongst men of their acquaintance.

We print the following extracts from business letters:

Thos. Elliott, Knoxville, Tenn.—You have earned my gratitude for the honorable and able manner in which THE STANDARD has sidetracked the silver and other minor issues.

Robt. Tyson, Toronto, Can.—Your circular is an excellent idea. I return the list with some corrections of addresses. I have written to the outside people and shall see the remaining Toronto ones. I enclose \$3 for a yearly subscription.

Harold Sudell, New Castle, Del.—I enclose two more recruit subscriptions. Next week I will see whether any of the previous trials have borne any fruit. I am pretty sure of some of them.

Wm. E. Norton, Monroe, Ore.—I have written to some and will write to the rest, and also see several or all of them. The interests of THE STAND-

AND will not suffer if talking will do any good. The Story of the Week will be an invaluable help in canvassing. It seems to me that every effort should be made by Single Tax men to make THE STANDARD the leading economic journal of the world. In the fearful possibilities of the present social ferment the principle of our cause must be looked to as the only salvation from destruction and chaos. When that time comes we will need a STANDARD round which to rally—one that is high and safe, and now is the time to put it beyond the reach of financial disaster.

H. J. Simonton, Dade City, Fla.—I saw the man whose name I enclose last Saturday. He says he will subscribe, but he has not yet fully seen the cat. I will send you a subscription in the course of a few days for my son at Washington.

L. W. Hoch, Adrian, Mich.—Enclosed find draft for \$16, for which please send THE STANDARD to the following persons as specified. So far I have secured eleven of the twenty-six to whom sample copies were sent. Nine of them I have been unable to interview as yet. Four would like to take the paper, but cannot afford it just now. One refused point-blank and one Protection friend will not contribute to the support of any journal which advocates "the overthrow of the system which has made this nation so prosperous." Of course this is a hopeless case. I hope to gather in most of the others in the near future. Mr. J. W. Clement, one of the subscribers whose name was sent in by Mr. Hoch, in a letter to the latter says: "I am fully in accord with the principles enunciated in THE STANDARD, and quite agree with you that the nearer we get to those economic ideas the sooner we shall return to true Jeffersonian Democracy, as taught by our forefathers. The issues on which the Democrats have fought the Republicans for a quarter of a century are now dead, and it remains for a young Democracy to take up the work where our fathers left off."

James W. Hill, Peoria, Ill.—Enclosed please find express money order for \$24, for which please send THE STANDARD for one year to the following:

J. K. McCarthy, Noman, Okla.—I have filled out the blanks with the names of people who I think will subscribe.

J. L. Pollard, Randolph, Tenn.—I have seen some of the parties to whom I ordered the paper sent, and they say they are going to subscribe. The others I shall write to immediately with a request that they let me know what they intend to do. I shall do all I can for THE STANDARD and the Single Tax cause, but, being an old man and almost decrepit, what I do I shall expect you to be satisfied with.

Mr. Pollard encloses a postal card received by him, saying: "I most heartily sympathize with the Single Tax cause, and will welcome THE STANDARD for four weeks and become a regular subscriber, which I should have done long since. I regard the Single Tax as the most important reform of the nineteenth century."

W. D. Spencer, Thomaston, Conn.—I have finally seen —, and he was ready to subscribe for six months and handed me the money, which I will forward with some other cash promised me. Enclosed find four recruits.

W. E. Brokaw, Vermilion, S. D.—Mr. — said he would probably subscribe. He is a radical Free Trade Democrat. The other three are much interested. Prof. — heard Mr. Shearman deliver his address on the Menace of Plutocracy, and I think he is a Single Tax man. I send one recruit subscription for Mr. —, County Alliance lecturer. He has been opposing the Single Tax, but at the close of my talk last night said he agreed with most I had said. I had answered several of his questions.

David Harrower, Wakefield, R. I.—I enclose check for \$3, for which please send THE STANDARD to —. He is a young lawyer here, and a Single Taxer. I find that readers of THE STANDARD here are very much pleased with the Story of the Week.

G. W. Lowrey, Burlington, Vt.—Enclosed find check for \$4. Please send THE STANDARD for one year to Y. M. C. A., Burlington, Vt., and to —, at Burlington, for four months.

Rob't Baker, Chattanooga, Tenn.—Enclosed I send you check for \$2 for eight months' subscription to THE STANDARD. The changes that have been made in the paper are, I think, sure to enlarge its usefulness. I have for a long time thought that, if it is to reach people outside our own small circle, its sphere of usefulness must be broadened.

E. K. Robinson, Norfolk, Va.—Enclosed find check for \$1, for which please send THE STANDARD to —.

L. N. Glaze, San Jose, Cal.—I send postal order for \$1 for four months' subscription to —, at San Jose. I may be able to send you some more four months' subscriptions from prominent Free Traders who would, I think, continue to take the paper. The future is ours. Although I am 64 years old, even in the short time left me here I expect to see changes for the better in the social problem.

John Hennesy, Canton, Ohio.—Enclosed find \$1 for four months' subscription, to be sent to —. I will send you two more in the course of a few days, and as many more as I can get. The Story of the Week just fills the bill, and makes the paper still more valuable support to those of us who have neither the time nor inclination to wade through one of our blanket sheets.

B. F. Snyder, Tecumseh, Mich.—Enclosed find postal note for one dollar, for which please send STANDARD to Mr. — for four months. Give Mr. William Gaston the credit for this, as he saw him for me and got the subscription. I shall never let up in my efforts for THE STANDARD. Mr. Snyder sends in another money order for a subscription, and says: "I got this subscription by merely asking for it. I think many might be procured in the same way if Single Taxers would make an effort. THE STANDARD ought to have a circulation of 100,000. It is the best paper printed in the United States, and deserves the support of all reformers."

Mr. R. F. Young, Kansas City, Mo.—These are all men interested in the subjects discussed in THE STANDARD, and I feel sure you will get one or two permanent subscribers from among them.

Mr. M. L. Hawley, Marathon, N. Y.—I think the position of THE STANDARD on the political situation, as it affects Single Tax men, is able, clear-sighted and ganly; the paper is giving thorough satisfaction.



H. L. Buzzell, Meadville, Penn.—One of these is a classmate of mine, and is strongly inclined to Free Trade. I have written him. The other is one of the professors here in the Theological School.

J. N. Ryder, Wakefield, Mass.—Enclosed please find postal order for \$8, for which send STANDARD to the following persons. The last named is one of our Assessors, and I think I shall be able to get two or three more subscribers after a few days. You can send me another recruit subscription book and I will use it with care and only where I think the game is worth gunning for.

L. F. Weston, Cambridgeport, Mass.—I wish to add my testimony in commendation of THE STANDARD'S course and to express my great satisfaction with the new features lately adopted. This leads me to do what little I can to aid in extending its circulation. I could probably use a recruit subscription book to advantage. I thoroughly believe that the success of THE STANDARD means, in a large degree, the success of the great principle we are advocating.

A. R. Wynn, Toledo, O.—Keep up the fight for THE STANDARD. You may not feel the results of your hammering as soon as you expected, but it will come your way in the end. I am going to help all I can.

#### THE TEN-CENT EDITION OF "PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE?"

D. Webster Groh, Boston, Mass.—Enclosed order brings my subscribers up to 101, and entitles me to membership in the Hand to Hand Club. It seems to me that every Single Taxer could and ought to sell enough to become a member of this organization. In offering this book at ten cents, as I have been doing, I am doing my customer a great favor, and therefore have no more hesitancy in approaching them than I would in offering to return a pocketbook I had seen them lose. Even at twenty-five cents, one should have the same feeling, as the book is worth many times that. No one with intelligence will regret its purchase, at that figure. Yesterday on Boston Common we had a successful meeting, and sold eighteen copies. Could have disposed of many more if we had had them there. In future shall take addresses and cash of those who want them and have you mail them direct.

W. L. Burton, Colton, Cal.—Our club will order at least 100 copies shortly.

Mrs. Mary McPhee, Hornellsville, N. Y.—One dollar enclosed for ten copies. Sold first ten readily, and have orders for ten more at fifteen cents each.

John H. Blakeney, Binghamton, N. Y.—Enclosed is my third order for ten, and Michael Brick has sent for twenty.

J. A. Spoor, Lewis, Iowa.—Can see the effect already of first lot of "Protection or Free Trade?" Many Protectionists have been converted, and some revenue Democrats are not afraid to say they are for Free Trade and the Single Tax. Se we, who have seen the cat, must work till others see it. One dollar enclosed for ten more copies.

M. R. Richie, Richmond, Ind.—Enclosed dollar is for ten more copies. Those already received have elicited considerable interest, and may pave the way for a further growth of Free Trade sentiment in this politically benighted region.

A. W. O., Morristown, N. J.—Please see that enclosed one hundred dollars is used in sending a copy of "Protection or Free Trade?" to 1,000 Farmers' Alliance secretaries throughout the country, to help hasten the day when through sound economic principles, Righteousness may preside over the fabric of our civilization.

Henry C. Rew, Chicago, Ill.—Fifty dollars enclosed for 500 copies. Send one copy to each address herewith. Balance where they "will do most good."

Arrangements have now been completed so that all orders will be mailed promptly as soon as received, when accompanied by the cash. We prefer checks or money orders, but can use two-cent stamps in limited quantities. Please write name and full address plainly. Many errors have occurred through the name of the State being omitted and post mark illegible. Sample pages and subscription blanks will be mailed free in any quantity on request. W. J. Atkinson, Secretary, 42 University place, N. Y.

#### THE STATE EXERCISING ITS RIGHT OF EMINENT DOMAIN.

Boston Globe.

The notion that land is absolute property as much as personal property, and that a proprietor may do as he likes with his own, is so ingrained in the Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-American mind that it is not strange to find some land owners in Medford and Malden bitterly resenting the intrusion of the State for the purpose of killing the gypsy moths on their premises. One man felt so sure that the land was his, and the State had nothing to do with it, that he threatened to shoot the State's officers when they insisted on entering upon his land to spray his trees with poison. He did attempt to cut the hose where it entered his land, and was fined yesterday for so doing. The State so seldom exercises its right of eminent domain that most people do not realize that property in land is on an essentially different basis from other kinds of property; that it is in fact a trust held by the sufferance of the State, which is the final owner, and that the State reserves to itself the right at any time to enter, as it were, upon its own. In this State and most others the constitution provides for compensation to the proprietor, but that does not affect the principle, which is that the State has "eminent domain;" i. e., that it is the real owner of the land. In the case of the gypsy moths, however, it is not necessary to invoke this power; the ordinary police power of the State covers it.

#### HIGH PROTECTION AND CHEAP LABOR.

Boston Globe.

The Venezuelan methods for collecting duties are peculiar. If a cook stove has a brass knob on its door the whole thing is weighed as so much brass, and duty charged accordingly. A barrel of flour, costing \$5, pays imposts not only on the flour, but the staves, hoops and heads, costing, when set down, with freights and duties added, \$15. And yet owing to cheap labor bread is about as low and quite as good in Caracas as in New York.

#### A PLEA FOR EQUAL TAXATION OF IDLE LAND.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Sentinel.

Several weeks ago we took occasion to mention a number of instances of extremely low valuation for taxation of the real estate, and especially of the vacant lands in and about the city, and cited the low appraisement in the first place, and the long intervals of time between assessments as another cause of the discrepancy. Amongst the several lots of low valuation was one lot of land, unimproved, held by the owners at \$33,000 and assessed at \$1,900; another assessed at \$40 sold for \$800, and another assessed at \$200 was held at \$1,200. The publication of these figures brought to our notice, through our readers, the astonishing fact that most all of the unimproved land held in and about the city is assessed in this manner, so that it pays little tax as compared with improved property. A gentleman, one of our business men, yesterday showed us a check for \$1,250 he had just received for a lot that pays taxes on a valuation of \$60, and he thought it a good joke on the community, as indeed it is.

The extremely high price that the real estate is held at here may be accounted for in the loose manner of getting at the taxable value of it. Now, as the workmen, who are the best customers of our storekeepers, find that most of their wages goes for a place to put a home it would pay our business men to look into this matter and see if a change cannot be effected in our tax laws. The building associations are a good thing to help our people to get homes, but the high prices asked for lots compel the borrower in the associations to often bid for money to an excessive figure. A fair and equal taxation of the idle land at the same rate that the improved real estate is assessed at would throw a good many lots on the market and thus reduce the price, and this would leave a much greater share of the wages in the hands of the workers to be spent for goods in our stores.

#### GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO POUND HIS FINGERS TO MAKE HIM LET GO.

Washington Post.

The public would like to know whether or not David Bennett Hill would let go of the Governorship and the Senatorship should he be elected to the Presidency.

#### HAVE WAGES RISEN, MR. WORKINGMAN?

Dayton, Ohio, Times.

We have had six months of McKinleyism. How are wages, Mr. Workingman? The tariff tax was raised from 40 per cent. up to 60 per cent.—that is, advanced 50 per cent. Have your wages been advanced accordingly?

#### LORD BOUNTIFUL HATES THE SINGLE TAX.

T. O'R. in Sydney (Australia), Democrat.

Lord Bountiful sat in his smoking-room chair,

Discussing economic tax (facts).

"Of all the vile systems that I do abhor,

The older I grow I hate it the more;

It's monstrous," says he, "and it's bad to the core.

I refer to the Single Tax, my friends;

I refer to the Single Tax."

"Look here," said his lordship, "now where should we be,

If they brought in this hurabugging tax?

Let's examine the question, and what do we see?

(Not that I would care what would happen to me)—

It's my tenants I'm thinking of. How would they gee,

If they brought in the Single Tax, my friends;

If they brought in the Single Tax?

"Now, who would look after them when they were ill—

To think of that my heart racks—

With no Lady Bountiful giving 'em soup,

Or dosing their children when down with the croup?

Could anything ever these poor folks recoup?

For the loss of her kindness? I ax, my friends!

For the loss of her kindness? I ax."

"And how will the peasantry ever learn how

(Their principles now are most lax),

To reverence their betters? To whom will they bow,

When those miserable bumpkins that follow the plow

Are allowed to hold land which we occupy now,

Along o' the Single Tax, my friends?

Along o' the Single Tax?"

And every monopolist there in that room

Gave the system some horrible whacks;

And every one "felt it his duty" to say,

That he looked on a land tax with "utter dismay,"

For he knew every good man would long "rue the day."

If they brought in the Single Tax, my friends!

If they brought in the Single Tax!

Now, a moral there is to this little tale—

A moral dependent on tax (facts)—

Just listen. . . . If spiders now started to rail

At some mixture, which, rubbed on a blue-bottle's tail,

Would make him as tough as a blooming inch nail,

Would you laugh at the spiders or flies? I ax;

At the spiders or flies? I ax.

The moral is coming (it won't gee long),

It's coming in chunks, which I hacks;

Though landlords and other monopolists all,

Live, like spiders, each one in his lordly hall,

There's a mixture I know of, as bitter as gall,

To spiders—the Single Tax, my flies!

To spiders—the Single Tax!



## SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE ADOPTED THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES MADE BY NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 3, 1890.

(Secretaries of clubs are requested to send corrections, notices of the formation of new clubs or of requests for the enrollment of existing clubs to Geo. St. John Leavens, Secretary of the National Committee, at No. 42 University place, New York.)

### ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol. F. Clark; sec., Theo. Hartman.

### CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES.—Single tax club. Pres., Clarence A. Miller; sec., S. Byron Welcome, 523 Macy st.

OAKLAND.—Oakland single tax club No. 1. Meets every Friday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, at 1056 1/2 Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Hodgkins.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 261 Market street. Pres., L. M. Manzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 341 Market street.

### COLORADO.

DENVER.—Single tax club. Headquarters 303 16th st. Pres., Geo. H. Phelps; sec., James Crosby, P. O. Box 257, Highlands.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. Regular meetings fourth Friday of each month at office of B. D. V. Beeve, corner Union av. and Main st. Pres., B. D. V. Beeve; sec., J. W. Brentlinger.

### CONNECTICUT.

SHARON.—Sharon single tax committee. Chairman, J. J. Ryan.

### DELAWARE.

WILMINGTON.—Single tax association. Meets first and third Mondays of each month at 8 p.m. Pres., Geo. W. Kress; sec., Frank L. Reardon.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Chas. F. Adams' Scientific Council (No. 2) of the People's Commonwealth. First Tuesday evening of each month at 150 A st. n. w. Trustee, Chas. Newburgh, 64 Defrees st.; sec., Dr. Wm. Geddes, 1719 G st., n. w.

WASHINGTON single tax league. Executive Committee meets at the residence of President H. J. Schulteis, 923 H st., n. w.; Wm. Geddes, M.D., sec., 1719 G st., n. w.

### GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, GA.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., J. M. Beath; sec., J. Henley Smith, 12 W. Alabama st.

### ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 206 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 308 Hudson av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 751.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax club of South Chicago and Cheltenham. Pres., John Black; sec., Robt. Altchison, box K. K., South Chicago.

BRACEVILLE.—Braceville single tax committee. Pres., John Mainwaring; sec., Chas. E. Matthews.

PEORIA.—Peoria single tax club. Meetings Thursday evenings in Court House. Pres., Jas. W. Hill, 310 North st.; sec., Jas. W. Avery.

QUINCY.—Gem City single tax club. Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30, room 4, second floor, n. e. cor. 5th and Hampshire sts. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec. Duke Schroer, 524 York st.

### INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Single tax league. Pres., Thos. J. Hudson; sec., Chas. H. Krause. Every Sunday, 2:30 p. m. Mansur Hall, cor. Washington and Alabama sts., room 12.

MICHIGAN.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 155 South 3d st.; sec., M. Richie, 913 South A st.

### IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 305 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur, Bensen, 920 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

CEDAR RAPIDS.—Single tax club. L. G. Booth, pres.; J. T. Kennedy, sec.

### KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progress single tax club. Open every evening, 504 West Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolf; sec., W. W. Daniel, 303 Franklin st.

### LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 131 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 326 Thalia st.

### MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunlap; sec., W. G. Andrews, P. O. Box 703.

### MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m., in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; sec. sec., J. W. Hesel, 28 S. Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1438 E. Baltimore st.

Baltimore single tax society. Every Sunday afternoon, 3 p. m., at Industrial Hall, 316 W. Lombard st. Pres., Jas. T. Kelly; sec., W. H. Kelly, 522 Columbia st.

### MASSACHUSETTS.

STATE.—Massachusetts single tax league. Pres., William Lloyd Garrison; sec., E. H. Underhill, 45 Kilby st., Boston; treas., George Cox, Jr., 72 High st., Boston.

BOSTON.—Single tax league. Public meetings second and fourth Sundays of each month, at 2:30 p. m., at G. A. R. Hall, 616 Washington st. Pres., Edwin M. White; sec. Emily T. Turner 5 Cambridge st.

BROOKLYN.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st. Pres., Wm. A. Hollister; sec., A. S. Bernard, 54 Belmont st.

DORCHESTER.—Single tax club. Meetings first Tuesday of each month at Field's building, Field's corner. Pres., Edward Frost; sec., John Adams, Field's building, Field's corner.

HAVERHILL.—Haverhill single tax league. Meets every Thursday evening, at 73 Merrimac st. Pres., Geo. W. Pettengill; cor. sec., Edward E. Collum, 4 Green st.

MALDEN.—Single tax club. Pres., Geo. W. Cox; sec., Edwin T. Clark, 100 Tremont st.

NEPONSET.—Single tax league. Sec., Q. A. Lothrop, Wood st court, Neponset.

NEWBURYPORT.—Merrimac single tax assembly. Pres., Andrew R. Curtis; sec., Wm. R. Whitmore, 236 Merrimac street.

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., J. R. Carrett, 30 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romano, 959 Tremont st.

WORCESTER.—Worcester single tax club. Meetings first Thursday of month, at Reform club hall, 98 Front st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., E. K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

### MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Monday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., C. J. Buell, 402 W. Franklin av.; sec., Oliver, T. Erickson, 2203 Lyndale av., N.

ST. PAUL.—Single tax club. Pres., H. C. McCartney; sec., Geo. C. Madison, 339 E. 7th st. Second and fourth Tuesdays at 41 W. 4th st.

### MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman; sec., Percy Pepon, 3507 Easton av, St. L.

HERMANN.—Single tax committee. Pres., R. H. Hasenritter; sec., Dr. H. A. Hibbard.

KANSAS CITY.—Single tax club. First Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., at Bacon Lodge Hall, 1204 and 1206 Walnut st. Pres., Herman Hermalink; sec., R. F. Young, Signal Service office.

ST. LOUIS.—St. Louis single tax club. Tuesday evenings at 307 1/2 Pine st., third floor; business meetings first Monday of each month. Rooms open every evening. Public meetings first and third Thursday of each month at Bowman's Hall, 11th and Locust sts. Pres., H. H. Hoffman; sec., J. W. Steele, 2738 Gamble st.

Benton School of Social Science. Meets every Saturday evening at 6839 Waldemar avenue. Pres., Henry S. Chase; sec., W. C. Little.

### NEBRASKA.

WYMORE.—Wymore single tax and tariff reform club. Meetings every Wednesday evening at Union hall. Pres., Julius Hamm; sec. and treas., H. C. Ja; nes; P. O. Box 137.

### NEW JERSEY.

CAMDEN.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Felton hall, n. e. cor. Second and Federal sts. Pres., Aaron Hand; sec., Wm. M. Callingham, 624 Line st.

JANVIER.—Janvier single tax and ballot reform club. Alternate Thursday evenings, Janvier hall. Pres., W. J. Rice; sec., Sydney B. Walsh.

JERSEY CITY.—Standard single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday of each month at Assembly Rooms, 642 Newark av. Pres., Jas. McGregor; sec., Joseph Dana Miller, 223 Grand st.

PLAINFIELD.—Single tax club. Pres., John L. Anderson; sec., J. H. McCullough, 7 Pond place.

NEWARK.—Single tax and free trade club. Pres., C. B. Rathburn; sec., M. T. Gaffney, 211 Plane st.

PATERSON.—Passaic co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg av. Meetings every Thursday evening at 109 Market st.

VINELAND.—Vineland single tax and ballot reform club. Pres., Rev. Adolph Roeder; sec., Wm. P. Nichols, box 924.

WASHINGTON.—Warren county land and labor club. Pres., A. W. Davis, Oxford; sec., John Morrison, box 272, Washington.

### NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.—Manhattan single tax club. Business Meeting first Thursday of each month at 8 p. m. Club rooms, 73 Lexington av.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m. Pres. Louis F. Post; sec., A. J. Steers.

Metropolitan single tax association. First and third Saturday evenings of each month, 490 8th av. Pres., John H. O'Connell; sec., Fred. C. Keller.

BROOKLYN.—Brooklyn single tax club. Business meetings Wednesday evenings; club house, 198 Livingston st.; open at all hours. Cor. sec. G. W. Thompson, 9 St. Marks av.

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays, 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres. Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Miss Venie B. Havens, 219 DeKalb av.

East Brooklyn single tax club. Meetings every Monday evening, 408 Evergreen av. Pres., James Hamilton; sec., Jas. B. Connell, 448 Central av.

Eastern District single tax club. Public meeting on first Tuesday in each month, held at Eureka Hall, 378 Bedford avenue. Business meeting first and third Mondays at 94 South Third street. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Eighteenth ward single tax club. Every Thursday at 8 p. m. at 253 Evergreen av. Pres., J. J. Faulkner; sec., Adolph Pettenkofer, 253 Evergreen av.

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday, 7:30 p. m., Beaver Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres., F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Noyes.

BUFFALO.—Tax Reform Club. Pres., S. C. Rogers; sec., T. M. Crowe, 777 Elk st.

OSWEGO.—Pioneer single tax club. Pres., James Ryan; sec., James C. Murray.

OWEGO.—Single tax club. Pres., Michael J. Murray; sec., Wm. Minchaw, 50 West Main st.

LONG ISLAND CITY.—Freedom association meets evening of every fourth Friday of the month at Spahn's bar's

hall, corner Vernon and Borden avs. Sec., T. G. Drake, 215 Kouwenhoven st.

TROR.—Single tax club. Meetings every Thursday evening at 576 River st; Pres., Henry Sterling; sec., B. B. Mar-tin, 576 River st.

WEST NEW BRANTON.—Richmond County single tax club. Sec., A. B. Stoddard.

### NORTH DAKOTA.

HATTON.—Hatton single tax reform club. Pres., A. S. Forslid; sec., T. E. Nelson; treas., M. F. Hegge.

### OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Monday night, 7:30 o'clock, Robertson's Hall, Lincoln's Inn Court, 227 Main st. (near P. O.). Pres., Joa. L. Schraer sec., Dr. David De Beck, 139 W. 9th st.

CLEVELAND.—Central single tax club. First and third Wednesday evenings, 8 p. m.; rooms, 301 and 303 Arcade, Euclid av. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., L. E. Siemon, 7 Greenwood st.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., J. G. Galloway; sec. W. W. Kile, 108 East 5th st.

GALLON.—Gallon single tax club. Every Monday evening, residence of P. J. Snay, 108 South Union st. Pres., P. J. Snay; sec., Maud E. Snay.

HEMLOCK.—Single tax club. Pres., D. P. Sweeney; sec James G. Hayden.

MIAMISBURG.—Miamisburg single tax club. Pres., H. M. Scott; sec., J. T. Beala.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Every Thursday evening, Ivories hall Pres., Billy Radeffe; sec., A. C. Hughes, 13 Public sq.

ZANESVILLE.—Single tax club. Pres., W. H. Longhee sec., Wm. Quigley.

### OREGON.

PORTLAND.—Single tax club. Meets first Monday in each month at Free Library Hall, 171 Second st. Pres. T. D. Warwick; sec., Wallace Yates, 193 Sixth st., Portland, Ore.

### PENNSYLVANIA.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st. Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec. E. D. Burleigh, 13 Willow av.

JOHNSTOWN.—Henry George club. Meets every Monday evening for public discussion. Pres., A. J. Moxham sec., S. E. Clarkson.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society of Philadelphia every Thursday, 8 p. m., 1341 Arch st.; cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7:30, 64 4th av. Pres., Edm. Yardley; sec. Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th st.

POTTSVILLE.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weltzenkorn's hall, Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 723 Penn st. Pres., Chas. S. Prizer; sec., Wm. H. McKinney, Mineral Spring road and Clymer st.

### RHODE ISLAND.

PAWTUCKET.—Pawtucket single tax association. Pres John McCaffrey; sec., Matthew Curran, 64 Main st.

### SOUTH DAKOTA.

STATE.—South Dakota single tax association. Pres., Judge Levi McGee, of Rapid City; sec., John B. Hanten, Watertown.

BALTIC.—Baltic single tax club. Pres. T. T. Vrenne; sec., T. J. Questad.

WATERTOWN.—Single tax club. Pres. Jno. B. Hanten; sec., L. E. Brickell. Meetings every Wednesday night in basement Granite block.

### TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS.—Memphis single tax association. Pres., J. S. Menken; sec., R. G. Brown, Appeal building.

### TEXAS.

EL PASO.—Single tax club. Meetings second and fourth Monday nights, 200 1/2 El Paso st. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec. and treas., M. W. Stanton; cor. sec., G. H. Higgins.

HOUSTON.—Houston single tax club. Meetings every Tuesday evening, 7:30, Franklin st. Pres., E. P. Alsbury; sec., E. W. Brown.

### WEST VIRGINIA.

PARKERSBURG.—Parkersburg single tax league. Headquarters, 506 Market st. Pres., W. H. Curry; sec. W. F. Thayer.

### WISCONSIN.

MILWAUKEE.—Milwaukee single tax league. Pres., L. B. Benton; sec. treas., Martin Johnson.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

PORT ADELAIDE.—Single tax league. Pres., M. Bicks; hon. sec., E. LeMessolner.

## THE SINGLE TAX PLATFORM

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES AT COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, SEPT. 3, 1890.

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

We hold that each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

To carry out these principles we are in favor of raising all public revenues for national, state, county and mu-



principal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another, all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax we propose is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax, not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc., to be determined by impartial periodical assessments. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues, not in proportion to what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.
2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.
3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.
4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.
5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or on a half used, and would throw open to labor the limitless field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

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